Toronto metro

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016

High 6°C/Low 4°C Partly cloudy

MCDONALD'S
McNugget Mc-Mystery ingredients subbed out
metroNEWS

NAME THAT RHINO

The Toronto Zoo wants you to vote on three options for its newest resident metroNEWS

T.O.'s new neighbourhood coming to life

CANARY DISTRICT

West Don Lands redevelopment price tag: $514M

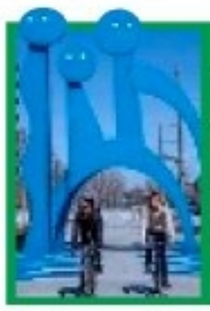
Steven Goetz
Metro | Toronto

The construction barriers have fallen away, and Torontonians are getting their first look at the city's newest neighbourhood.

The Canary District is the $514-million redevelopment of a West Don Lands industrial site, first given new life last summer as the site of the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games' athletes' village. Now the area's six residential buildings have been repurposed as condominiums, and residents are slowly starting to move in.

A brand new YMCA is scheduled to open in a few weeks, streetcar service to nearby Cherry Street begins in June, and George Brown College will open a new student residence later this year. Over the next decade, the neighbourhood is expected to grow to include more than 6,000 residential units.

The opening in 2013 of the adjacent Corktown Commons — the award-winning park in the area's far east end — raised expectations that the built-from-scratch neighbourhood would be a showcase for the latest in urban planning. Now that people are starting to wander through its streets for the first time, Torontonians can see for themselves whether the project lives up to expectations.



'IT'S AMAZING': METRO READERS EXPLORE PAGE 9

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Police identify Canadian's body dumped in 1969 near site of Manson family killings. **Canada**

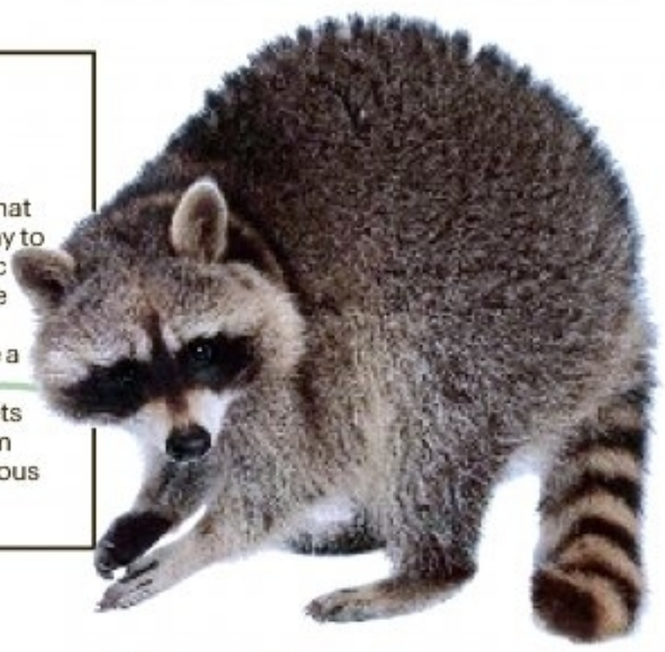
THE WAR ON RACCOONS

Mayor John Tory is expected to announce Thursday the delivery of the city's all-new "raccoon-resistant" green bins in Scarborough as part of a larger campaign against what Tory calls "Raccoon Nation." Toronto's war with the masked robbers has been going on for years. Here is an unofficial synopsis of the major battles, wins, and losses of the Great Raccoon War.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SEPT. 17, 2002

Launch of Toronto's green bin program
In 2002, Toronto launched what was supposed to be a new way to reduce the amount of organic waste in landfills. Little did the city know that the green bin program would turn out to be a huge boon for our enemies. The bins became prime targets for raccoons, who found them easy to open and full of delicious food scraps.



JULY 23, 2010

Raccoon Nation shuts down traffic
In a significant step-up to their usual tactics, the raccoons decided on an age-old method of warfare — disruption of key supply lines. A raccoon shut down an intersection in Burlington, bringing traffic to a halt in all four directions. Though media reports at the time couldn't verify the animal's motives, a Humane Wildlife Control worker speculated the animal "wanted to create some traffic chaos."

AUG. 29, 2014

Drastic measures
With the war against the masked enemy ongoing, a Forum Research poll captured the terrified emotions of Torontonians. Over half of those surveyed said they supported euthanizing raccoons as a form of population control. About a quarter — 27 per cent — were against it, showing the enemy had friends on our side.

MARCH 3, 2015

Studying the enemy
A video released by the city offered new hope in the war. In it, the enemy attempted to get into new raccoon-resistant green bins throughout the night of March 3, but failed. It's the equivalent of the Manhattan Project, except instead of nuclear fission, our weapon has a dial latch, and instead of a 20 kiloton TNT yield, ours is slightly heavier so raccoons can't tip it over.

MAY 25, 2015

It was us all along
A City of Toronto staff report found that the biggest enemy of all might not be Raccoon Nation after all, but humans. In the report, city staff noted that overflowing garbage bins, carelessly stored green bins and food left outside for domestic animals such as cats and dogs was significantly helping the raccoons thrive. With the city's new green-bin rollout, we may finally have the upper hand. But the war isn't over. Not yet.

PHOTOS: ISTOCK

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Beyond barter: Bunz helps evade TTC fines

ETHICS

Online alerts about fare inspectors sets off debate

Steven Goetz
Metro | Toronto

Some TTC riders are using a popular Facebook group to alert each other to the presence of TTC fare inspectors.

The practice has divided members of Bunz Trading Zone, a popular bartering group with almost 36,000 members on Facebook. Heated debates have broken out in the comments below the almost-daily posts.

One faction argues against any help for fare evaders robbing the transit system of the money it relies on for 70 per cent of its revenue; others call for some compassion for those who can't afford the $3.25 fare.

One of the group's administrators, David Morton, told Metro he doesn't condone the alerts but unless members complain, no action will be taken.

"The community does what it wants, but if people complain then we take things down," Morton said. "We get more than 700 posts a day so unless we hear about it, we can't do anything about it."

Morton said people have been dumping on TTC fares longer than Bunz has been around.

"In terms of the practice of not paying for something, no one is going to say that is cool," Morton said. "But I think if people are jumping the queue or stealing a loaf of bread, it's because they're broke."

TTC spokesman Brad Ross told Metro the transit agency's inspection program is adequate as is: "Information used to alert would-be fare evaders, by whatever means, is only as good as the moment it is sent," Ross said.

"Fare inspectors travel at random times, with no pre-set schedule — where and when they are today will be different tomorrow, or in 10 minutes."

Ross added that the "vast majority of TTC customers are honest people with integrity, who pay their fare," but those who do evade fares will eventually be caught and slapped with fines between $200 and $400.

A Facebook group is sending out alerts on fare inspectors. SCREENSHOT

TORONTO ZOO

Decide whether 'Nandu' will do for rhino

What does he look like to you? A Rodney? A Roger? What about Roderick?

The Toronto Zoo is asking for help picking a name for their two-month-old Indian rhino calf.

Three rhino keepers have each nominated a possible name, and you can now vote online for the name you like best.

The keepers eschewed alliterative "R" names, and went instead with names that have a connection to India: Nandu, meaning "One who is cheerful and happy"; Vihaan, which means "morning" or "dawn"; and Kaziranga, which is a national park in India and home to two-thirds of the world's Indian rhinos.

The not-so-little rhino was born Feb. 17 and already weighs 180 kg, and is still growing by about 2.3 kg per day. Keepers say he spends plenty of time with his mom, Ashakiran, and loves to take showers every day.

Baby and mom are on display at the zoo but also have access to a private indoor area, so they may not be viewable at all times, the zoo says.

There are only 2,000 Indian rhinos left in the wild. They are considered a "vulnerable" species, just one level above endangered.

The Toronto Zoo is part of a special program for Indian rhino conservation, and partnered with the Cincinnati Zoo to care for Ashakiran during her 16-month pregnancy.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The baby rhino at two months old. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

LABOUR RELATIONS

Library workers set to strike: Union

More than 2,000 library workers will strike Monday, shutting Toronto's 100 branches, unless the city gets serious about negotiating a new contract, their union says.

With a strike or lockout possible starting midnight Sunday, Maureen O'Reilly, president of CUPE Local 4948, told reporters Wednesday she is "extremely concerned about the state of negotiations." The union has yet to hear the library board's response to a union proposal tabled Tuesday that "pared down" demands, she said, but would still boost the number of full-time library jobs and reduce the "precarious" part-time work of half her membership. O'Reilly said five days is lots of time to settle a new contract, but the city's negotiators have so far shown no willingness to address the "crisis" of precarious work.

"A strike deadline is very meaningful," she said. "Unless real progress is being made at the time we will exercise our right to do that … we will unfortunately be withdrawing our services as of Sunday."

The library workers' contract expired Dec. 31. Talks for a new deal began in early February.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Human skull found

Toronto Police are investigating the discovery of a human skull that was found in a field near Hilldale Road and Symes Road. after a call that came in just after 2 p.m. Wednesday.

The coroner called on scene has confirmed the remains are in fact human.

Officers have cordoned off the trail next to the creek with yellow tape. The bank of the ravine is littered with cans, garbage bags and other trash.

Police sources told Torstar News Service the findings are not connected to the partial human remains found behind Charlie's Meat shop on April 19.

Police were called to a park off Symes Road on Wednesday. VICTOR BIRO/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Franco Ruffolo, a 61-year-old mechanic who lives down the street, went to the trail to see what was happening.

"A year ago they find a body over here," he said. "I don't know what's going on in this area. It's very scary." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EATON CENTRE ASSAULT

Man charged after woman injured in head-butting

A Toronto man has been charged with aggravated assault after a 68-year-old woman was head-butted at the Eaton Centre Saturday.

Jonathan Gallant, 33, was arrested Wednesday in connection with an incident, when according to police a man in a Denver Nuggets jersey head-butted a woman, knocking her to the ground so she suffered a broken wrist.

Gallant is scheduled to appear in court on Thursday morning.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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50	$18	$14	$32	$23	$53	$37
65	$68	$45	$146	$96	$281	$183

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MUSIC FESTIVALS

North by Northeast coming to Port Lands

Known for staging free shows at Yonge–Dundas Square, North by Northeast is expanding into new territory: Toronto's Port Lands.

Some 20 artists, including Father John Misty and Ghostface Killah, will be taking over the Port Lands on June 17 and 18 as part of the seven-day NXNE festival.

"The setting is amazing," said NXNE director Michael Hollett. "Everyone wants to do a venue on the water but setting up on the island is a nightmare. You have to deal with ferry lines, but with the Port Lands location you get a view of the water with access to buses, TTC and Uber."

Hollett expects the event to bring in upwards of 35,000 people.

According to Hollett, part of the inspiration for the new venue came from trips he took to Austin, Texas with Mayor John Tory and former mayor Rob Ford for the South by Southwest music festival.

"I went to Austin to show them the music scene," he said. "Music is great for the soul but we're really starting to see how it can generate money for the community."

So far, Hollett says he has enjoyed working with the city and views the Port Lands area as an "untapped resource" that's been overlooked.

"In the past, setting up the Dundas location was difficult because city officials are always finding ways of saying 'no you can't do that,'" he said, but "working with the Mayor's office and the Toronto Portland's Commission has been great."

NXNE Port Lands will feature Ghostface Killah, Shamir, Daniel Caesar, and Mick Jenkins on June 17 and Father John Misty, Mother Mother, Dan Mangan, The Zolas, and The Devin Cuddy Band on June 18.

SHANE PERUSSE/FOR METRO

Prince performs at the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts on May 19, 2015 in Toronto. GETTY IMAGES

Library sees Prince surge

POP CULTURE

Artist's books, albums sold out in hours

Shane Perusse
For Metro

The late artist Prince loved Toronto — and if record sales and library checkouts are any indication, the city loved him back.

"We sold out of our 12-inch LPs within 2 hours," said Larry Guarascia, manager of Kops records' Danforth location. "People were very surprised and shocked by his death. There were a lot of really dedicated fans moved by his (passing)."

Guarascia said that Prince's albums and records were always sellable but he noticed a drastic increase in customers looking for his work after the death was announced and that he is waiting on more reissues in anticipation of further sales in the coming weeks.

The death of the 57-year-old artist had further impact in the book world. Toronto Public Library has noticed an increase in books and music related to the singer being loaned out since his death on April 21.

"Staff have observed a spike in the volume of holds on existing titles since Prince's death," said TPL spokeswoman Michelle Leung. "The library has ordered more CD copies of existing titles and has also ordered new titles."

176
The number of holds requested on Purple Rain at the Toronto Public Library

TPL went as far as to set up a blog page showcasing images and material available for borrow that went online after Prince passed away.

If you want to head down to the library to pick out some of these items you may need to wait. There are currently 176 holds on the 28 copies of Purple Rain available.

221 holds were placed on The Very Best of Prince since April 21 with only two made prior to his death.

IN BRIEF

Most Muslim participants in study proud to be Canadian
Researchers asked 600 Muslim Canadians and 987 non-Muslims questions on a wide range of issues — from their sense of belonging to attitudes towards Islam and experiences with discrimination.

More than 80 per cent of the Muslim respondents said they were very proud to be Canadian, up from 73 per cent in a similar study by Environics in 2006. They attributed their greatest source of pride to the country's freedom and diversity. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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First impressions of a new neighbourhood

The barriers are gone and tenants are starting to move in to the Canary District — the city's newest neighbourhood. Located just east of the Distillery District in the West Don Lands, the area is expected to house more than 6,000 residential units in the next decade. The 2013 opening of Corktown Commons — the award-winning park in the area's far east end — raised expectations the neighbourhood would be an urban planning showcase. Now that people are walking through its streets for the first time, Metro asked for their first impressions.

STEVEN GOETZ FOR METRO

"It's wonderful. The distillery is kind of dark with the old buildings and here it is much more open and bright.

- Vicky Koudstaal, with her son Mark and granddaughter Iris

"I was really excited for it to open because we like to go to Corktown Common from our place in the Distillery and now we don't have to go around — it's a little less convoluted to get there. It will feel great when people move in.

- Mingxien Faridani, pictured with her parents and son

"It feels like it is going to be the new Liberty Village but with a lot more public areas where people can chill out.

- John Campana, with his friend Mike Solon

"I live just over there (to the north) and I didn't know this place existed last month. It's amazing.

- Rehnao Bond

"I remember when I was studying at George Brown College, this was not the nicest area. It looks like they have made good outdoor spaces for an area that is going to be so densely populated.

- Lilliane, with her friends Aakansha and Curren Pangler

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FILM

Metro's top picks at Hot Docs

The annual Hot Docs festival kicks off Thursday in Toronto, showcasing the very best in documentary film and cinema vérité. There are over 200 films in the lineup, so Metro combed through the program to pick five of the most interesting. Here's what we'll be watching.

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Lo & Behold: Reveries of the Connected World
Acclaimed director Werner Herzog, the man behind films like Grizzly Man and Cave of Forgotten Dreams, tackles his most perplexing subject yet: the Internet. In what's sure to be a mind-bending and eminently quotable take on our connected lives, Herzog's films balances utopic claims about the Internet with stories of online addiction and harassment.

The Crossing
With thousands of Syrian refugees settling in Toronto over the past few months, few films are as timely and topical as George Kurian's The Crossing. This intense documentary follows a group of Syrians as they plan their treacherous escape across the Mediterranean to Europe.

A Dog's Life
Hélène Choquette's documentary splits its time between Toronto and Montreal and explores the often touching relationship between homeless people and their pet dogs. With so few shelters accepting pets, these people are torn between the animals they love and a night on the streets.

Quebec My Country Mon Pays
Director John Walker grew up as an Anglophone in Montreal during the Quiet Revolution. His film is a reflection on Quebec's quest for sovereignty and explores the impact of 500,000 English speakers leaving the province — many of whom settled in Toronto.

Ovarian Psycos
Directors Kate Trumbull-LaValle and Joanna Sokolowski take you inside the lives of the Ovarian Psycos, a feminist bicycle gang in eastern Los Angeles. Feminism. Female empowerment. Bikes. What's not to love?

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY HOTDOCS.CA

The Rap City jam

RAPTORS

Ajax rapper's anthem is a new favourite on game days

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

If you've been at a Raptors game lately, there's a good chance you've danced to Peter Jackson's latest hit.

The Ajax rapper dropped his latest jam, Rap City, just in time for this year's NBA playoffs. Following the Raptors' epic comeback and win over the Indiana Pacers Tuesday, it was the No. 1 hit on the charts of SoundCan, a music-downloading platform.

"You know, I've had some of my songs feature well on iTunes, but being No. 1 on Soundcan was my biggest highlight," said Jackson, who has performed as a supporting act for big artists like Snoop Dogg and Akon.

Rap City highlights the 56-26 season record, and pays tribute to key players who've contributed to the team's 21-year history — from Vince Carter to rookie Norman Powell.

Jackson has been at several playoff games, and hearing his tune played as the players are introduced still gives him "goosebumps."

"It's incredible," he said. "That's 20,000 people amped up and dancing to your song. It's quite the feeling."

Rap City is the latest Raptors song to come out of Toronto's music community. Especially following this year's success, artists have produced hits praising the team and their impact on the city.

Rajan Gahunia's song, Northside Since 95, even predicts the Raptors will bring the NBA championship to Hogtown.

Rapper Peter Jackson, left, poses with former Raptors point guard Alvin Williams at the Air Canada Centre. CONTRIBUTED

There's no one song that's considered the team's anthem, but having fans use creative ways to show support is "an honour," said Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment spokesman Dave Haggith.

"We plan to look for more ways to incorporate these local artists into the experience at tailgate events outside Air Canada Centre," he said in a statement.

> **That's 20,000 people amped up and dancing to your song. It's quite the feeling.**
> Peter Jackson

LYRICS

Rap City
56 and 26 we the truth
You couldn't play one game in my shoes
I'm a super fan like I'm Nav
I watched Carter play with my dad
We run the East Boy
Where I'm from we ain't know no Cavs
This Jurassic Park
This nasty North
I don't know a city round here colder
This here is Rap City
We The North

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She was 'savagely killed'

REET JURVETSON

Canadian was dumped near site of Manson killings

For decades, she was known simply as Jane Doe No. 59 — an unidentified body dumped with 150 stab wounds in Los Angeles in 1969 near the site of several killings perpetrated by the notorious Manson family.

On Wednesday, a Canadian connection was confirmed in the 47-year-old cold case when the murdered woman was identified as Reet Silvia Jurvetson, a 19-year-old Montreal resident who'd gone to Los Angeles that year.

"Jane Doe #59 now has a name," Anne Jurvetson, Reet's sister and the last living member of her immediate family, said in a statement. "She had one all along, but no one knew."

Jurvetson said she's hopeful the news will help provide authorities with leads or fresh information.

These family photos show Reet Jurvetson, aged 18. Los Angeles police said say they're investigating whether the young woman, found stabbed more than 100 times in 1969, is connected to the Manson family killings. CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"My little sister was savagely killed," the Quebec woman wrote in a four-page testimonial dated April 18.

Anne, now 73, had been in contact with the LAPD since 2015, when Reet's friends saw a post-mortem picture, noticed a resemblance and alerted her.

A DNA match positively identified Jurvetson as Jane Doe No. 59, whose corpse was found Nov. 16, 1969, by a bird-watcher in dense brush off the iconic Mulholland Drive. She had been stabbed 150 times and didn't have identification.

But the location and timing of the killing just a few kilometres from the site of several Manson family murders long fuelled speculation that Jurvetson's case was connected.

Los Angeles police Det. Luis Rivera told People Magazine, which broke the story, investigators can't rule out the Manson family's involvement in the killing.

Charles Manson achieved notoriety in 1969 as the leader of a "family" of young killers who terrified Los Angeles. He was convicted of killing seven people, including pregnant actress Sharon Tate, the wife of director Roman Polanski.

Rivera told The Canadian Press there is nothing firm as of yet that would allow authorities to connect the slaying to the Manson clan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FINANCE

Corporate use of tax havens up

Canadian corporations and individuals quadrupled the amount of money they transferred into tax havens last year, pouring almost $40 billion into the tropical islands and European duchies that shield funds from Canadian taxes, newly released statistics show.

It was one of the biggest years ever for "investment" in tax havens — more than four times greater than the $9 billion sent offshore in 2014. The total amount of wealth held in the 10 most popular tax havens now sits at $270 billion.

"The problem is bigger than it has ever been," said Dennis Howlett, executive director of Canadians for Tax Fairness, which took foreign direct investment numbers from Statistics Canada to calculate the use of tax havens.

In 2015, $13 billion went to the Cayman Islands, $9 billion to Barbados and nearly $8 billion to the Bahamas, according to the statistics. Money sent to Switzerland shot up by 58 per cent over the previous year.

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PHILIPPINES

Experts seek to identify body

Police forensic experts are trying to determine if the headless body of a Caucasian man that was found by villagers in the southern Philippines was that of a Canadian hostage who was beheaded by Muslim militant earlier this week.

John Ridsdel, 68, was beheaded after the Abu Sayyaf did not receive a large ransom it had demanded by a Monday deadline.

Fellow Canadian Robert Hall, a Norwegian and a Filipino woman who were kidnapped with Ridsdel in September are still being held by the militants, along with about 20 other foreign hostages.

President Benigno Aquino III says that the Abu Sayyaf militants who beheaded Ridsdel may have plotted to kill him and kidnap boxing star Manny Pacquiao.

Aquino says the militants also wanted to explode bombs in metropolitan Manila to try to get funding from the Islamic State group but the plans were uncovered and troops have reduced the group's ability to inflict harm. Aquino, whose six-year term ends in June, says he sent a letter expressing condolences to Ridsdel's family, describing his death as appalling.

He vowed "to devote all my energies" to ensure that the extremists would be "at the very least … a very seriously degraded problem" for his successor.

While he has forged a peace pact with a larger Muslim rebel group, Aquino said there is no possibility of engaging in talks with the brutal Abu Sayyaf.

"We have always believed in the power of dialogue, development and positive engagement over arms," Aquino said. But of the Abu Sayyaf: "You have chosen only the language of force and we will speak to you only in that language." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump struggles to explain 'America first' foreign policy

U.S. ELECTION

Front-runner goes for sober tone to appear presidential

Donald Trump strained to lay out a clear vision of his "America first" foreign policy on Wednesday, vowing to substitute hard-headed realism for what he called a post-Cold War era replete with U.S. national security failures.

Yet the Republican presidential front-runner outlined no strategy for how he'd make the United States at the same time a "consistent" and "unpredictable" force in the world. And he didn't appear to allay the concerns of U.S. and international critics — Republicans at home as well as Democrats — who see him as unfit for the responsibilities of commander in chief.

"'America first' will be the major and overriding theme of my administration," Trump declared, echoing motifs from his campaign that is now close to sealing the GOP nomination.

Delivering his lines in a more sober, restrained manner than usual to cast himself as presidential material, the billionaire businessman and reality TV star toned down or omitted several of his most explosive — and oft-repeated — barbs. He made no reference to forcing Mexico to pay for a wall across the nation's Southern border.

Instead, Trump took aim at President Barack Obama's embrace of an Iran nuclear agreement, Obama's failure to eliminate Daesh and other examples of what he termed a foreign policy of "randomness" and "chaos." His criticism extended to Republicans, too, assailing President George W. Bush for the Iraq war.

"My foreign policy will always put the interests of the American people and American security above all else," he said.

+ TED CRUZ

Meanwhile, Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz tapped former technology executive Carly Fiorina — a woman who he said has repeatedly "shattered glass ceilings" — to serve as his running mate.

The U.S. approach to fighting Daesh will be "strong" under a Trump administration, he vowed, offering no indication of troop levels he might authorize. He intends to ease tensions with Russia while negotiating "from a position of strength," but he wouldn't say what that means for U.S. sanctions punishing Moscow for annexing Ukrainian territory. He said he'd balance America's massive commercial deficit with China "quickly," without a word about tariff policy or existing trade agreements.

Trump also contradicted his own broad-brush approach to foreign policy. He said at one point that the best way to achieve his goals was through "disciplined, deliberate and consistent" policy. Later, however, he exhorted the nation to "be more unpredictable" in how it combats enemies. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIGRANT CRISIS

Greece builds more camps as deportations continue

Migrants and refugees are seen in these photos at a makeshift camp at the Greek-Macedonian border near the village of Idomeni on Wednesday.

Greece continues to send migrants to Turkey as part of a European Union-Turkey agreement aiming to stop the flow of refugees and migrants across the Aegean to Europe's more prosperous heartland.

Greece said Wednesday it would construct a further four camps for them, in an effort to gradually clear an impromptu camp. AFP/GETTY IMAGES & THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'Made in Canada' claims may be false

RETAIL

Moose Knuckles in hot water with Competition Bureau

Models walk the runway at the Moose Knuckles Korea Launching Show at SongEun Art Space on August 30, 2013 in Seoul. GETTY IMAGES

The CEO of the "Canadian" Moose Knuckles apparel company said Wednesday that not all their parkas are made in Canada, after the Competition Bureau filed an application to have them brought before a tribunal for falsely marketing the brand.

"We make some of our parkas in Canada and some in other countries," said Ayal Twik in an email.

"The coats are clearly marked. One coat would say 'made in Canada' on the content label if it was made in Canada and another would say 'made in Vietnam' if it was made in Vietnam.

"I believe we are very clear on where our goods are made by putting in a country of origin tags on our coats, and listing them on our website. Many Canadian companies are proud to be Canadian and advertise that fact even if they do not make their goods in Canada," wrote Twik.

Moose Knuckles winter coats retail on-line and in specialty stores for $600 and up.

The brand was in the news in November, when Sophie Gregoire Trudeau, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's wife, wore one of its red-and-black plaid jackets in London.

"The Bureau is seeking an end to what it believes to be false or misleading 'made in Canada' representations," according to a release from the Competition Bureau.

The Moose Knuckles parkas are mostly manufactured in Vietnam and elsewhere in Asia, according to the Bureau, which filed an application with the tribunal on Wednesday.

Only the finishing touches, such as adding the trim, zippers and snaps are done in Canada, according to the Bureau. The bureau is seeking a penalty of $4-million for the company and unspecified compensation for consumers.

The bureau launched an investigation following a complaint, spokesperson Phil Norris confirmed.

He would not say whether it was a consumer or a competitor.

The application will be considered by the Competition Tribunal, which is essentially a court for competition matters. Each side will present its case and evidence will be reviewed, said Norris. He could not say how long that might take.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FOOD

More chicken in your McNugget

Like the indestructible Twinkie, Chicken McNuggets are practically a culinary punchline, a symbol of hyper-processed fast food with a list of ingredients that reads like a chemistry exam.

But now McDonald's wants to take at least some of the mystery substances out.

The world's biggest hamburger chain says it is testing a version without artificial preservatives.

It's the latest move by McDonald's to try to catch up with changing tastes and turn around its business.

McDonald's said it began testing the recipe in Oregon and Washington. ISTOCK

The new McNugget recipe is "simpler," and "parents can feel good" about it, the company said.

While McDonald's did not give full details about what is or isn't in the test recipe, it said the new McNuggets do not have sodium phosphates.

Also, the McNuggets will not be fried in oil containing the artificial preservative TBHQ.

Chicken McNuggets have become an mocked symbol of heavily processed fast food since they were introduced in the 1980s.

The breaded and fried nuggets are made of ground-up chicken rather than intact chunks of meat and are delivered to stores frozen.

The company said it began testing the new recipe in about 140 stores in Oregon and Washington in March. The test was first reported by Crain's Chicago Business.

As people pay closer attention to food labels, companies across the food and drink industry have adjusted recipes to remove ingredients that may sound unappetizing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, April 28, 2016

EMMA TEITEL ON THE DANGERS OF UBER

If you're a young woman who travels alone, the argument that one form of transportation is disproportionately more dangerous than another is unconvincing.

Two years ago, when I downloaded Uber, the American ridesharing service that's uprooting conventional transportation one complimentary water bottle at a time, safety was not at the top of my mind.

Uber was a godsend that ferried me to and from bars and appointments quickly and cheaply in the dead of Canadian winter.

But safety was — and still is — at the top of someone else's mind: my mother's.

To this day, every time I open the app in her presence, she wants to know: "Why do you trust Uber?" "And what is UberX, anyway?"

I try to explain that the latter is not a naughty version of the former (it's just cheaper) but my mom's mistrust of the ride-sharing service remains intact.

"Who knows who is driving you around?" she asks.

To which, I usually respond: "Actually, I do. His name is Vlad. He drives a Toyota Camry."

But she's adamant: "Take a taxi. I'll pay for it."

(I have a theory that conventional cabs have Uber-wary moms to thank for at least 15 per cent of their current business).

The question is: are Uber-wary moms needlessly paranoid or are they actually right to shun the New Lift Order?

Is there something uniquely dangerous about UberX, particularly for women? Lately, to my mom's credit, it appears there is.

On Tuesday, police in York Region, outside of Toronto, announced that they are investigating an alleged assault associated with the service; a woman said an Uber driver sexually assaulted her.

This allegation is not an anomaly; dozens have been reported across North America in recent years. In September, a 25-year-old woman in Toronto alleged that her driver assaulted her. In Los Angeles this year, a man was arrested after he allegedly posed as an Uber driver, lured a woman into his car and sexually assaulted her.

Among the charges levelled at Uber is that it's unsafe for women. Well, what form of transportation isn't? GETTY IMAGES

Even though Uber can't be directly blamed for this latter incident, the service provided good cover for a violent criminal act.

And women aren't the only alleged victims. In February, an Uber driver in Michigan shot six people to death in one evening, picking up and delivering fares in between killings.

But I'm not convinced, despite prophecies of doom from a terrified cab industry, that Uber is the spawn of transit Satan.

There is plenty wrong with the service — a culture of secrecy around its safety record and, according to many of its employees, a history of underpaying drivers.

But almost everything that Uber has been accused of safety-wise in recent days, holds just as accurately for taxis.

In 2014 a Halifax cabbie was convicted of sexually attacking a female passenger.

And far as the claim that cabbies everywhere are invariably both better regulated and screened, between 2014 and 2015, 100 drivers with known criminal records (including convictions for drug dealing and offences barring them from driving) were licensed by taxi companies in the U.K. jurisdictions of Liverpool and Sefton.

On a personal note, I have been made to feel uncomfortable by both taxi and Uber drivers.

The former have expressed — unsolicited, and on more than one occasion — their opposition to same-sex marriage, while the latter have remarked, questionably, on my personal habits.

There was, for instance, the Uber driver who dropped me off one day at a waxing salon.

"Your boyfriend must be pretty stoked about your appointment today," he said, clearly presuming I was there for a Brazilian wax; I was getting my moustache removed.

All this is to say, if you're a young woman who travels alone, the argument that one form of transportation is disproportionately more dangerous than another is unconvincing.

Uber may not be a bastion of safety but I doubt it is any more hazardous than a conventional cab, or at other times, a walk down an unlit street. (Or for that matter, a well-lit one).

What it is, however, is new. And new things scare us.

But despite the cash-free ride and the slick marketing, it's an old idea: in the name of convenience we entrust our lives to people we have not met before, and we hope for the best.

Taking a ride with Uber or an old-fashioned cab, we're flouting a piece of classic advice from my mother, and yours: "Never get into cars with strangers."

I'm not convinced, despite prophecies of doom from the cab industry, that Uber is the spawn of transit Satan

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Labiaplasty trend shows vagina shame is real — and really preventable

Oh, vaginas.

We love to ogle them (Game of Thrones is practically addicted) — except, not them, per se, so much as the kind that resembles the pale, U-shaped nothingness between Barbie's legs.

If we were that keen to look at all vaginas, girls in the U.S. might not be seeking plastic surgery for medically questionable labiaplasty, which isn't even recommended for adult women by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada.

The procedure alters the look of women's genitals generally for the sake of altering the look of women's genitals. It has not been proven to increase pleasure, and could actually reduce it via scarring, according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. "Vaginal rejuvenation" sold to older women is pure marketing fantasy, the SOGC says. And while the procedure is sometimes done to relieve labia pain (yes, a thing) it's rarely advertised that way.

Perhaps that's why last year saw an 80 per cent increase in the number of girls under 18 who got labiaplasty in the U.S. (400 in total), according to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. To combat the rates of labiaplasty in both countries, gynecologists are being told to offer counselling to patients — especially young patients — and to help women appreciate their own anatomy. In other words: Women don't know enough about their vaginas to know what normal looks like.

The fact is, vaginas are more varied than apple species. They have more diversity than a Liberal cabinet. And they do not all look like taut hammocks.

I'm embarrassed to say, I had no idea how different they could look until I came across an artist who makes casts of women's vaginas to convince them their bits look good. All the shapes and sizes genuinely shocked me, but why wouldn't they? The vagina in pop culture is more uniform than the houseplant.

Perhaps if we showed that variety and talked about how vaginas function (did you know the labia change during pregnancy and menopause?), we might not have this labiaplasty problem.

Instead, the idea that vaginas are gross/dirty/unspeakable endures. Women are still marketed vaginal wipes (penises being perpetually fresh). Trolls demean women with the C-word. Donald Trump slags Hillary Clinton's "woman card," reduces her entire campaign to her vagina, and it's no compliment.

I'm not smitten with the love-your-body-movement, which sets a sky-high bar for self-worship. But I could get behind a love-your-vagina spinoff, especially one targeted to girls. After all, what's the point of growing up in Internet age, if not to finally free the V?

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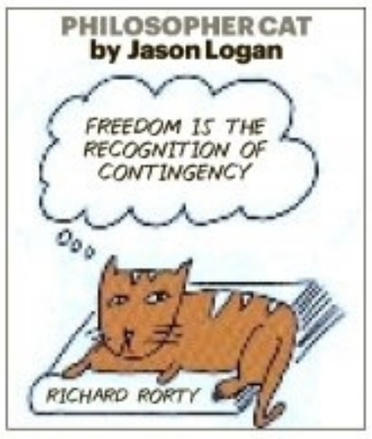

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BOOK EXCERPT **EPIPHANY: A CHRISTIAN'S CHANGE OF HEART & MIND OVER SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, BY MICHAEL COREN**

'I spoke of unconditional love'

Michael Coren is a well-known author, radio personality, columnist, Metro contributor and speaker, who, until last year, was considered a champion of social conservatism in Canada.

Coren has had a profound spiritual and personal change of heart. His book, Epiphany: A Christian's Change of Heart & Mind over Same-Sex Marriage, is an examination of how and why that happened.

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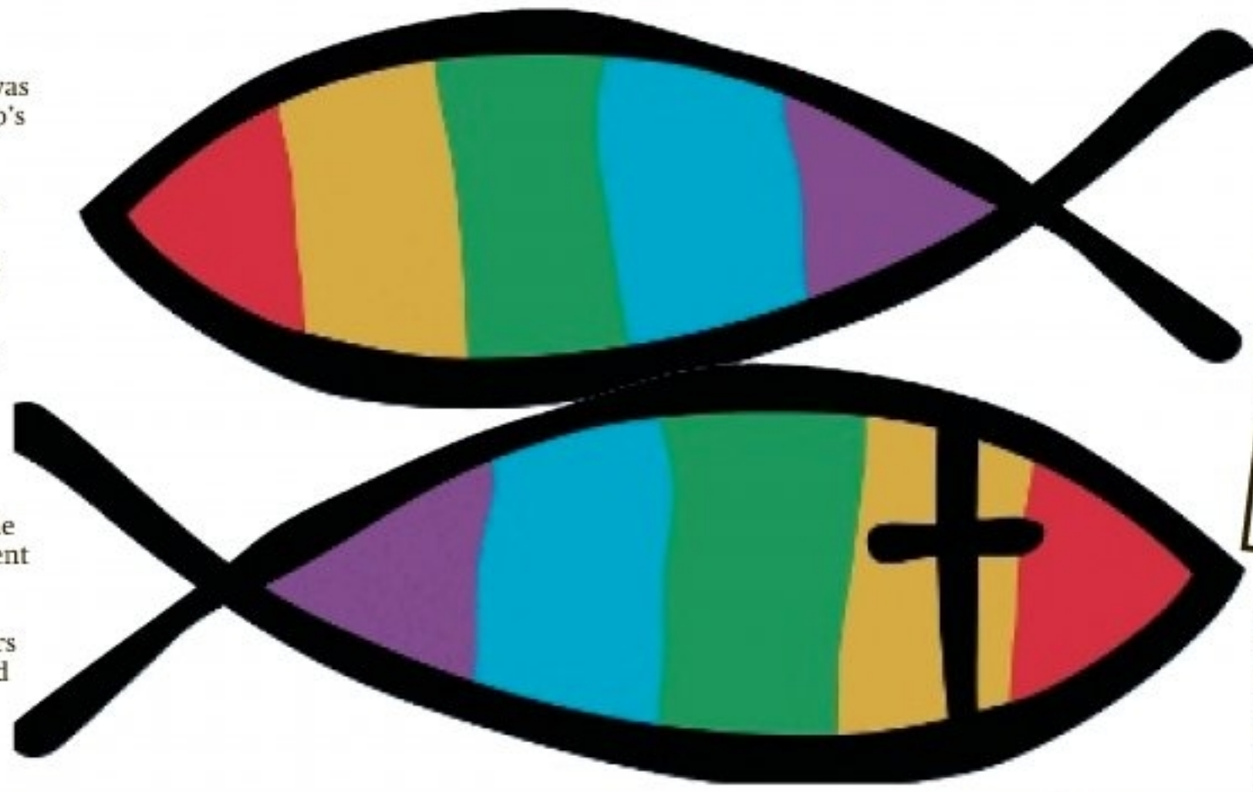
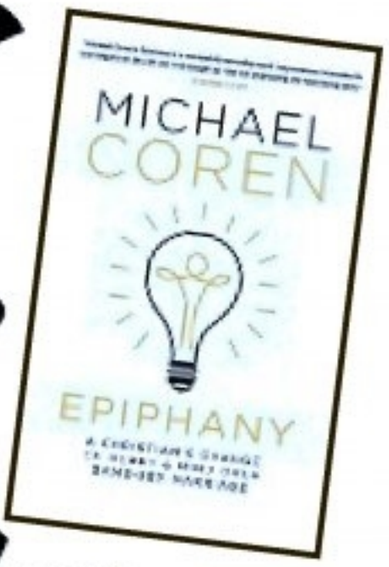
In the summer of 2015 I was asked to preach at Toronto's Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). MCC is not exclusively gay but its central theme, its charisma if you like, is outreach to LGBT people, and in all of its many international branches it is at the heart of the struggle for full equality. Indeed, in Toronto its leader, Brent Hawkes, is one of the most high-profile, visible, and eloquent leaders of the gay community. It was Brent who invited me to speak at the church — we had known each other for years because we often appeared on opposing sides on television and radio panels; neither of us ever thought we'd be embracing, close to tears, in front of the altar of his church. I'd spoken to hundreds of groups for more than a decade and hadn't felt nervous for a long time but was most definitely nervous this time. How many of these people had I hurt, how many had lives made more difficult by my writing and broadcasting? I'd never hated but I had given an intellectual veneer to the anti-gay movement, had enabled — even unintentionally — some muddy bigotry. Yes, I was nervous, and a little ashamed.

There were two services, with a combined congregation of around seven hundred men, women, and some children. And as I walked in on that hot, rainy morning, I was sensing no condemnation, no cynicism, no grudges. As an emotionally constipated Englishman, I was several times close to weeping as I witnessed a feeling of authentic Christian community that I have, with all due respect, not always found in mainstream church settings. I saw collectives of warmth and support, groups of people from various ethnicities, backgrounds, sexualities, and experiences united in acceptance. After so many months of abuse, accusations, and firings, my sense of liberation was exquisite. I told them that as a straight man who had reversed his position on gay rights and equal marriage, I had recently experienced a glimpse of a shadow of a whiff of what it must be like to be a gay Christian. I said that some of the finest Christians I had ever met had been people who were gay and had remained true to Jesus Christ. I said that remaining Christian in the face of hostility and even vitriol was an indication of an enormous depth of faith and was a living, fleshy example of a glorious mystery.

I spoke of unconditional love, of what scripture actually said about sexuality rather than the popular and misguided caricature of Biblical truth that we are so often offered. I said that the only absolutes were grace and love.

Never has a standing ovation felt so true, so good, and so pure.





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NEW SERIES

Contemporary authors take a stab at rewriting Shakespeare

There's an interesting twist in Margaret Atwood's reworking of Shakespeare's The Tempest, Louise Dennys is saying.

"She's basically reset it completely in the modern world," says Dennys, executive vice-president of Penguin Random House Canada.

She asked her friend Atwood to take part in the Hogarth Shakespeare project, aimed at getting some of our most prominent modern authors to reimagine Shakespeare's work for today.

"She's just completed it. It's so good. It's just great. I mean, she's so clever and contemporary and her characters are so rich."

Penguin Random House has released the cover of Hag-Seed, as Atwood's version of The Tempest is called, and she's just handed in the manuscript, so her contribution to the project is top of mind.

"She has managed to incorporate the theatre into it in a very real way," Dennys says.

Which, of course, makes the whole thing that much more intriguing. The Hogarth Shakespeare project was started by Dennys and two of her international colleagues — one in the U.K. and one in the U.S. — as a way of marking the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death and introducing his work to a new generation.

They've signed a number of well-known writers who will do "cover versions" (as author Jeanette Winterson put it) of Shakespeare's plays that will be rolled out over a five-year period.

While we'll have to wait until Oct. 11 to see Atwood's reboot, two of the other titles have already come out: The Gap of Time, Winterson's rework of The Winter's Tale, and Howard Jacobson's Shylock Is My Name, which is, as the title hints, a reset of The Merchant of Venice.

Anticipation is already high for American writer Anne Tyler's effort, Vinegar Girl, a retelling of The Taming of the Shrew that comes out in June.

"Anne Tyler taking on The Taming of the Shrew I think is really brave . . . it's a very controversial novel in modern times. Because Kate, the "shrew" who stands up against her husband, eventually gives in."

The modernizing comes, Dennys notes, in the way Tyler deals with the relationships and the characters. Some of the choices expected out in 2017 seem inspired: Gillian Flynn of bestselling Gone Girl fame is taking on the bloody tragedy Hamlet; Jo Nesbo, the noir thriller writer, has chosen Macbeth; Tracy Chevalier, who you'll remember from Girl With a Pearl Earring, is taking on Othello while Edward St. Aubyn is doing King Lear. Eventually, Dennys says, they hope all of Shakespeare's work will be retold in this way.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Drawing cancer

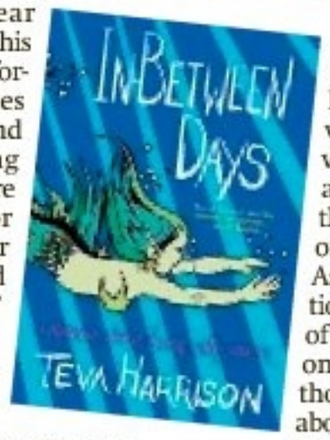
INTERVIEW

Author's graphic memoir depicts her struggle with illness

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Teva Harrison has been drawing her entire life. Her mother is an artist and so, growing up, art supplies were considered toys. But in 2013, just prior to being diagnosed with stage-four metastatic breast cancer at the age of 37, Harrison — who studied fine art in Seattle — hadn't been creating much personal work. She was too excited and busy with her new director of marketing position at the Nature Conservatory of Canada, not to mention the fun, rich life she shares with her husband, David.

After the diagnosis, Harrison began drawing again as a way of centering and calming herself. "It was definitely something I missed in my life, if not consciously, but subconsciously," she says, describing her early art as "pretty little things that made me smile." On the encouragement of a psychiatrist, she began creating more personal images. Initially they reflected her childhood memories.



"Things disappear when people die. This is how we lose information and stories and experience, and just documenting moments that were magical to me, or really difficult for me, accomplished different things," she says.

When she felt ready to think more about the cancer and her pain, Harrison began sketching about them. But she wasn't ready to reveal those drawings to family or friends.

That wasn't until later, when she showed them to a group of supportive friends, also with metastatic breast cancer, who encouraged Harrison to share her "universal experience." So Harrison put her comic illustrations on a private blog, where they gained her an almost instant following. The drawings were published serially by The Walrus, and now as a graphic memoir, In-Between Days, published by House of Anansi Press.

Told through a series of black-and-white drawings and diary entries, In-Between Days is an unflinchingly honest and occasionally joyful account of Harrison's day-to-day life, from awkward situations ("So what do you do?" a stranger asks) to the physical realities of early menopause. As a vegan, she questions the hypocrisies of using drugs tested on animals. And although she is careful about hope, it's there in small acts, like her skin-care regimen and need to wear seatbelts.

Harrison dedicates a section of the book to her family legacy, namely several female members who also had breast cancer. "It was really important to me to include that part in a large way because I don't really believe in the continuance of self," she says. "But we do live on in other people through the stories we tell about them."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

At 37, Teva Harrison's world turned upside down when she was diagnosed with incurable breast cancer, which means treatment for the rest of her life. To cope, she started to draw and write. The result is a powerful graphic memoir called In-Between Days.

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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ANNIVERSARY

Smooth criminal celebrates 10 years

Criminal: 10th Anniversary Special
BY: Ed Brubaker and Sean Phillips
PUBLISHER: Image Comics

Mike Donachie
Metro | Canada

It's not really about a kung fu werewolf, but it sort of is.

It's 10 years since the start of Criminal, the crime series by Brubaker (who wrote the book that led to the movie Captain America: The Winter Soldier) and Phillips, and it's still the gold standard of comic books. The whole series is available in book form, but its anniversary has been marked with this special magazine-sized book, which features the return of some old favourites.

Killer, gangster and useless father Teeg Lawless is back, and his young son Tracy is along for the ride. Dad has a nasty job to do, and the kid is being forced to help. He won't enjoy the trip.

But he does have a kung fu werewolf for company, in the comic book he's reading. The main story is strong, but the best part of this is the book-within-a-book, with several pages of 70s-style action featuring a hairy, high-kicking Peter Parker allegory.

The Criminal special works as a standalone story, if you haven't read the other books. But you should.

BOOK BRIEF

Biography reveals randy side of McCartney

Sir Paul McCartney once had a foursome. And we're not talking a friendly game of golf. The ménage-a-quatre — involving McCartney and three willing women — is one of the many salacious revelations in author Philip Norman's authorized biography of the former Beatle, this one recounted by his cousin Mike Robbins. Among the more eyebrow-raising details:

• McCartney's father's advice on sex was to watch dogs copulating.

• Manager Brian Epstein would arrange to have a high-priced prostitute available to each of the Beatles during tours of the U.S.

• Girlfriend Dot Rhone changed her looks to resemble French sexpot Brigette Bardot.

• When McCartney was dating Iris Caldwell, a trapeze artist, he had her mother comb his very hairy legs.

• The Fab Four shared a room in the early days and the night George Harrison, then 17, lost his virginity, the other three cheered and clapped afterward. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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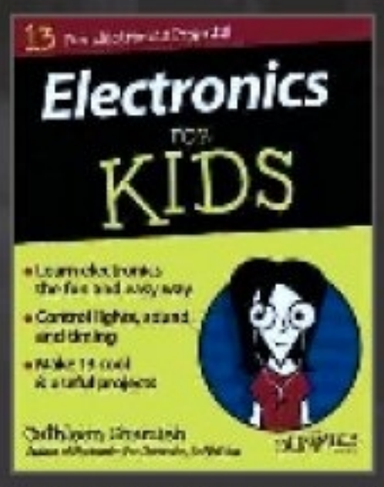

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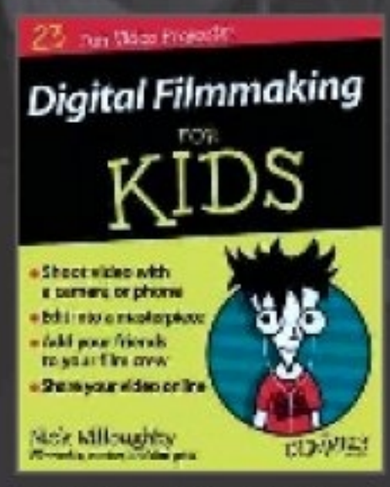

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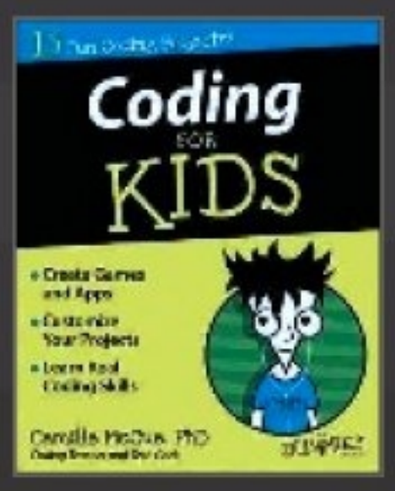

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

When Prince was on New Girl

THE SHOW: New Girl, Season 3, Episode 14 (Fox)
THE MOMENT: Prince's magic

Prince was the perfect person to play guru to Zooey Deschanel's Jess in New Girl. CONTRIBUTED

Remarkably, Jess (Zooey Deschanel) and her friends are at a party at Prince's house. Prince, intuiting that Jess needs him, pulls her aside to impart his wisdom.

In a manic montage, he has her try on outfits until she finds the perfect gown. Then he creams her at ping-pong. "14-0," he says.

"I don't know what I'm supposed to be learning here," she sputters. "15-0," he says.

He locks her in a dark room. Then he's in the room. Then they're outside watching a Monarch butterfly.

"I think I understand now," Jess says.

The butterfly lands on Prince's shoulder. "Now do you?" he asks. "No!" she cries.

Fox re-ran this episode Tuesday night, as fans still reel from Prince's death. You feel joyous wish-fulfillment throughout it. It was a key moment for the series: Jess finally tells Nick (Jake Johnson) she loves him. You can imagine the writers saying, "What if we got someone cool and guru-y — someone like Prince — to make her brave?"

Miraculously, Prince agreed, and embraced with deadpan relish his guru persona, and even pulled Jess on stage with him to do a rocking duet.

The last scene, in which the gang is back on their sofa, staring stunned into space, wasn't meant to be a eulogy, but it works as one.

"Did that really happen?" someone asks.

Was Prince really here? Did we get to spend time with him for a while?

"What do we do tomorrow?" asks Schmidt (Max Greenfield). "Go to work? Get on with our lives?" It's the question we all ask, when someone who touched us leaves too soon.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

BIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH

Harper Lee wrote article for FBI agents

Charles J Shields — whose updated Harper Lee biography, Mockingbird, was released Tuesday — says the late author wrote an unsigned article for a magazine published by former FBI agents about the case in Truman Capote's non-fiction novel In Cold Blood.

Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee, From Scout to Go Set a Watchman was orginally published by Henry Holt in 2006.

Harper Lee accompanied Capote in March 1960 on his assignment from The New Yorker to research the murder of four members of the Clutter family in rural Kansas. Capote later published the book In Cold Blood about the case in 1966.

Shields told The Guardian how he found the story. During his research, Shields found an item in a Garden City, Kansas newspaper announcing that an article about the Federal Bureau of Investigation's work on the case would appear in Grapevine, an FBI magazine.

The notice, from February 1960, read, in part: "Nelle Harper Lee, young writer who came to Garden City with Truman Capote to gather material for a New Yorker magazine article on the Clutter case, wrote the piece for Grapevine. Miss Harper's first novel is due for publication by Random House this spring and advance reports say it is bound to be a success."

That was To Kill a Mockingbird, which was published in July 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize for literature.

Shields then searched the Grapevine archives and found a story about the case published in March 1960. It was consistent with her style, according to Shields, and contained details that would have only been known to Capote and Lee. AFP

Harper Lee. AFP

On the trail of Becky with the Good Hair?

Since Beyoncé dropped her visual album Lemonade, internet sleuths have been trying to figure out who the mysterious "Becky with the good hair" is. Name-checked in kiss-off track Sorry, the lyric implies Beyonce's husband, Jay Z, cheated with the enviably coiffed mystery woman. Here, the prime suspects.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rita Ora

Evidence: The Jay Z protégé Snapchatted herself in a bra with illustrated lemons on it while wearing a "J" pendant. She then Single White Female-ed Beyoncé by wearing the same Gucci jumpsuit from Bey's Formation video.

Hair: Fabulous

Is she Becky? Actually, we're pretty sure she thinks she's Beyoncé.

Mya

Evidence: When asked by TMZ if Beyoncé was digging up old rumours that Mya had an affair with Jay Z, the Lady Marmalade singer declared herself "not guilty."

Hair: Well, in TMZ's video it's in a ponytail under a baseball cap, so . . . exonerated?

Is she Becky? No way — don't pull Mya into this, TMZ!

Everyone

Evidence: A source told Page Six that "Becky with the good hair" is "many girls" that Jay Z has strayed with, all of which, presumably, had overpoweringly beautiful hairstyles.

Hair: Every hairstyle of the rainbow.

Are they Becky? Like the killers in Scream, it wouldn't surprise us if there was more than one.

Iggy Azalea

Evidence: Iggy volunteered that she had been called out as Becky in the past, but it had nothing to do with Jay Z. "Generalizing any race by calling them one stereotypical name for said race, I personally don't think is very cool," she tweeted, adding, "Do you know how many times ppl have called me BECKY?"

Hair: Becky-ish

Is she Becky? The Becky? No. A Becky? Arguably.

Lori Loughlin

Evidence: Loughlin retweeted a meme of her Full House character, captioned "Becky . . . with the good hair," commenting, "wasn't me!"

Hair: Good? It's great!

Is she Becky? She will always be Becky, but something tells us that if Jay Z was only binge-watching Fuller House, Beyoncé wouldn't be wielding a baseball bat.

You

Evidence: Go and pick up another bottle of that shampoo, because you are "Becky with the good hair"! Or so goes the logic of Beyoncé's father Matthew Knowles, who deflected lyrics suggesting that he hit Beyoncé with a strange interpretation. "Can I tell you who she's talking about? She's talking about you," he told E! News. "You put that in context for you personally. She's talking about you and everybody that is you."

Hair: It's good . . . just like in the song!

Are you Becky? If you have to ask, it's too late.

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Using home for a leg up

REVERSE MORTGAGES

Borrowing from property is a way to ride the tide

Brent Jolly

Recently widowed and with two teenage children living at home, Christine Dodds, who did not want her real name used, was caught in what she calls "financial quicksand."

At 56, she was laid off from her job as a paralegal and had very little retirement savings to tap into. Although there was the possibility of a new job on the horizon, her financial stress was compounded by another family emergency, which left her desperate for cash.

"I needed help," she said. "I've never lived a lavish lifestyle. I've always been frugal, but life just happened."

What Dodds did have working in her favour, however, was that she lived in a home in Toronto that she estimated to be worth over a million dollars. She also wasn't carrying a mortgage.

House rich, but cash poor, Dodds says she realized her best option was to take out a reverse mortgage on her home.

"I was desperate, I was left with little other choice at that point," said Dodds, who got her reverse mortgage through HomEquity Bank's Canadian Home Income Plan (CHIP).

A reverse mortgage is a financial arrangement which provides applicants with a mortgage loan secured against the value of a home. Reverse mortgages are only available to people over age 55 with enough equity in their home to borrow against it.

According to Yvonne Ziomecki, senior vice-president of marketing and sales for HomEquity Bank, customers can get about 20 to 55 per cent of their home's value through a reverse mortgage.

That spread depends on several variables, including the home's location, the client's age, the condition of the property, and its type.

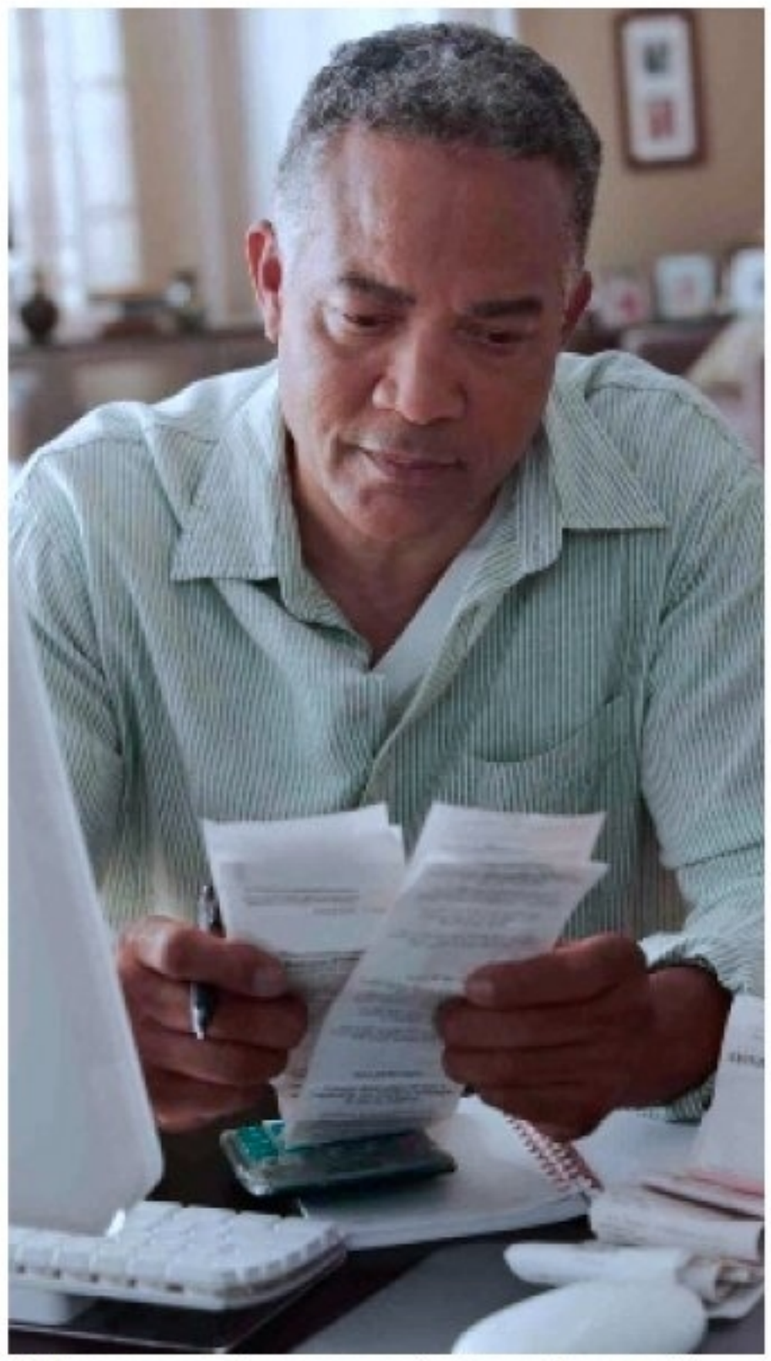
Among the key advantages of taking out a reverse mortgage: customers can continue to live in their home and the money they receive is tax free.

In Dodds' case, she was able to secure a lump sum payment of $300,000, which was the maximum amount she was allowed to withdraw given her age. "Using the equity in my home got me through my time of emergency," she said.

While the choice to take out a reverse mortgage was a virtual no brainer for Dodds, it isn't a financial strategy that should be used liberally, says Sherry Cooper, chief economist for Dominion Lending Centres.

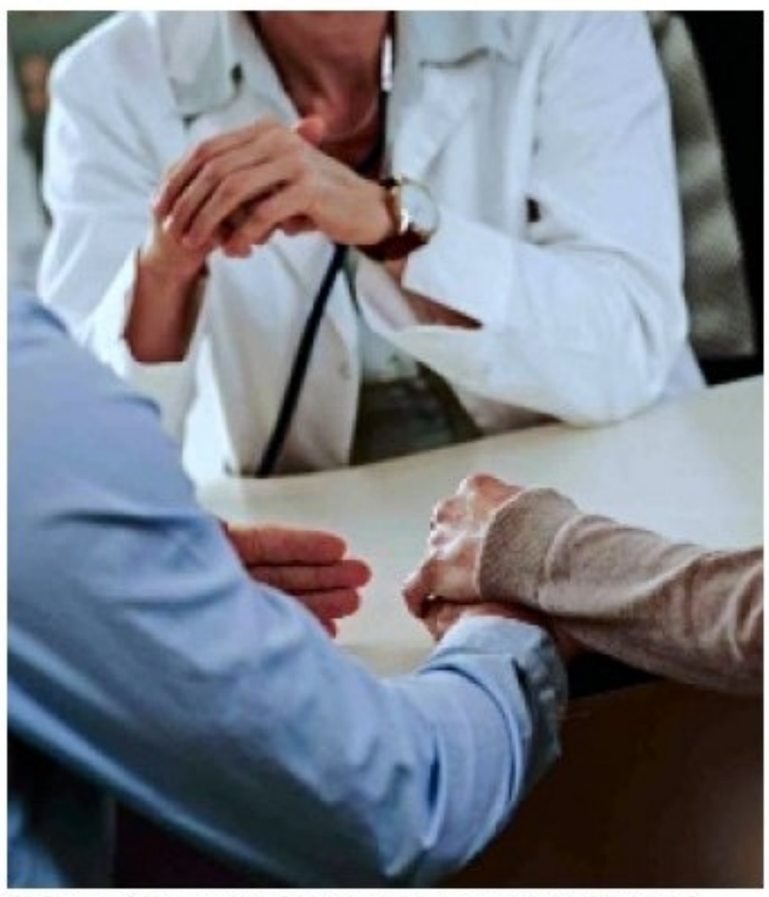
"Reverse mortgages should only be considered as a measure of last resort for a short-term fix," said Cooper. "They should be sought out only when consumers have no other options."

Cooper airs on the side of caution with reverse mortgages as they can be both expensive and difficult for people to fully understand.



With a reverse mortgage you can live in your home and the money you receive is tax free. ISTOCK

Homeowner beware the second time



Only consider a second mortgage in extreme and unusual circumstances, like if you lose your job, or have an illness. ISTOCK

Putting a second mortgage on your home is not a decision to take lightly, says James Laird, president of national mortgage broker CanWise Financial. "The first thing to think about here is whether you should opt for a second mortgage at all," he said.

To be clear, a second mortgage is an additional loan you take out on a property that is already mortgaged. "It's not a completely separate mortgage for a cottage or second home," said Laird.

That makes it riskier for the lender, because if you default on your loan, the home will go into foreclosure. "But the first money out will go to pay back the lender of the first mortgage," said Laird. Only after he has been 100 per cent repaid, "does the second mortgage provider get a single dollar.

"So the holder of the second mortgage is going to be quite concerned that you will not have the money to repay him in full," he explained.

To compensate for this extra risk, you pay higher fees and interest costs for a second mortgage, and you may have to jump through a few extra hoops. Here's what you need to know before you take the leap.

When should I consider a second mortgage? Only in extreme and unusual circumstances, says Laird, such as when a marriage breaks up, you lose your job, or illness sets in. "It would not be prudent to use it to put a pool in the backyard, or buy a cottage," he said.

Even if your intent is to spend money to make money, by say, putting in a basement apartment to generate income, Laird is leery. "You'd have to look very closely at the cost of the investment versus the potential income generated by the investment," he said. "The rent that you would receive would have to be very strong to cover the cost of borrowing for the second mortgage."

How much will I pay in fees and interest? That's a function of three things: the amount of equity you have in your home (it provides security for the loan), your personal credit (it's an indicator of how likely you are to repay the debt), and your household income (because you can't get blood from a stone).

Unlike in the case of a first mortgage, you'll usually pay a fee of one to two per cent of the loan amount to set up a second mortgage (say $100 to $200 up front on an extra $10,000).

Your interest rate will be considerably higher too — probably between six and 13 per cent, compared to 2.4 to 2.9 per cent for fixed-rate first mortgages. "The higher the risk, the higher the rate," Laird said.

A fairly low-risk borrower in the world of second mortgages, might be someone who has a $50,000 mortgage on a $100,000 home and wants to borrow an extra $15,000 to pay off the credit card. The problem: he has just lost his job.

Even with the second mortgage, this borrower still owns 35 per cent of his home outright. "He might get a rate of around six per cent," Laird said.

CAMILLA CORNELL

APPS

The facts at your fingertips

Buying a home in Toronto's red-hot real estate market can feel a bit like chasing your tail — you check out a house, fall in love, figure out your financing, make an offer…and then lose it to one of the multiple bidders. To make your home-buying process easier, here's a roundup of the best apps to help you navigate the home-buying process — from finding the home of your dreams, to figuring out whether you can afford it.

Ready Set Home Mobile App
Developed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), this tool walks prospective homeowners through the process of purchasing a property. It offers both mortgage affordability and payment calculators, and you can set up a profile to track the properties you're considering, along with their various features (a finished basement or charming deck, for example). It will, of course, let you know if you need to purchase CMHC mortgage loan insurance and how much that will set you back as well. Additional features include a glossary of mortgage terms, and plenty of articles on topics related to home ownership.

HomeOpeners App
Genworth Canada offers this app with mortgage and affordability calculators (plug in your income, debt payments, interest rate, etc. and it will tell you how much home you can manage). It's geared to real estate industry professionals, but it's easy to use and anyone can download it. There's also a mortgage insurance premium calculator that lets you know what it will cost if you need to get Genworth's mortgage loan insurance.

Homestyler Interior Design App
Can't figure out how to decorate that new living room or bedroom? Upload a photo of the room, plug in its measurements and then try out different furniture, flooring or paint colour options.

CAMILLA CORNELL

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Investment properties that pay off

NEST EGG

A financial planning strategy that is gathering the attention of Canadians

Brent Jolly

Low interest rates are making investment properties, such as condos, a popular long-term financial strategy. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jeffrey Hoffman is a self-described 'accidental' property investor.

Seven years ago, he was living in a tightly quartered one-bedroom condo with his husband, James Hayward, in Toronto's historic St Lawrence Market district. Although their condo was beautiful, he says, the pair knew they needed more space to let their relationship grow.

Right around that same time, Hoffman lost his job. Rather than sulk, Hoffman, now 49, used the funds from his separation package to put a down payment on another, bigger, condo.

Through the benefit of hindsight, that moment now seems almost like a blessing in disguise.

"Our real estate agent said we should try and keep both condos because, at that moment, we had the means to do it," said Hoffman. "It wasn't a conscious decision but we thought 'why sell this place if we can rent it out and (have) someone else pay the mortgage?'"

It's a story that, so far, is working out very well for the couple. They are using the rental income they generate from their old apartment to help them build up a healthy nest egg for retirement.

And they aren't alone. In fact, according to one ongoing Altus Group survey, about one out of 20 Canadian households own at least one rental or investment property.

With interest rates hovering near record lows, it's a long-term financial planning strategy that is gathering the attention of many Canadians, says Patricia Arsenault, an executive vice president, research consulting services with the Altus Group, in Toronto.

"Consumers should look at [investment properties] as long-term income-generating ventures," she said.

"You want to get some upside on the value of the property but that's a bonus. At the end of the day, [investors] should think that the ongoing income you get from the property is what makes the whole thing work."

But with prices for many downtown properties beginning to scrape the upper-limits of the stratosphere, is there still space for middle-class investors to get in on the game?

"It's not an easy game to play any longer," said Sherry Cooper, the chief economist for Dominion Lending Centres. "With price inflation and multiple bidding situations, properties have been booming."

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metro HOME
Your essential daily news

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WATER SOLUTIONS
The Nest condos collect rainwater to maintain the 7,000 foot green terrace.

The Vanguard condos, coming to Markham, are designed to the LEED Gold standard and offer sustainable features throughout the building. Right: The Nest on St. Clair Avenue West is designed by environmentally friendly firm RAW. DEVRON DEVELOPMENT; ROCKPORT DEVELOPMENTS

Green development is good development

INNOVATION

From bikes to Tesla chargers, condos go environmental

Duncan McAllister
For Metro Canada

There's a big push underway to provide environmentally-friendly, sustainable condo development in Toronto. With LEED becoming the new building standard, architects and builders are looking to integrate even more green features into condominiums, from electric vehicle chargers in parking garages, to centralized rainwater-collecting irrigation systems, green roofs, and even solar-collecting windows.

We asked architect Erica Govan from RAW, what draws the organization to design green buildings.

"The human race." she says, without hesitation. "If we don't, I think we're doomed. Also, we have a social responsibility as we encourage people to live downtown."

Govan says that the City of Toronto has been doing a good job when it comes to green initiatives.

"When a developer wants to build these larger-than-life towers, the city is in a powerful position to make certain demands."

The green roof bylaw is just one example of legislation that goes a long way to persuade builders to think green.

"Luckily, they've grasped that." explains Govan. "The city administration says that if you're going to build something that is a hundred more residential units than we would've thought at the beginning, then you have to provide an irrigation tank and you have to provide enough bicycle parking and you have to provide rough-in conduits for extra cars."

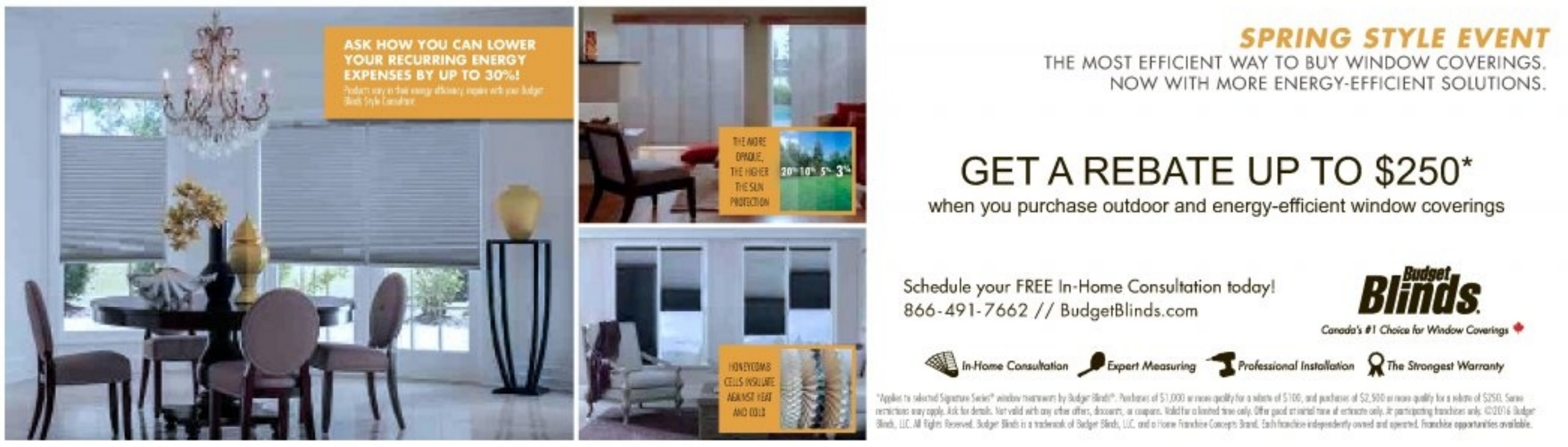
Last year, RAW collaborated with Rockport Developments to design The Nest. The mid-rise residence aims to be a modestly-scaled addition to an established neighbourhood at the western extension of the St. Clair LRT, and is a great example of the new standard in green condo development.

With the city planning for more density in the Yonge Street corridor, Devron Developments saw an opportunity to shift the high-rise paradigm with The Vanguard condos, designed to the LEED Gold standard.

The building will house a centralized rainwater system to maintain its 7,000-square-foot green terrace. And this is very cool — the fitness bikes in the gym are rigged to feed electricity back into the building's grid.

"Sustainable development is in our DNA," says Devron's chief operations officer, Pouyan Safapour. "Sustainability is about energy efficiency, water conservation and a greater awareness about your carbon footprint, and we're always looking for innovative ways to go beyond the green standard."

Additionally, there will be Tesla destination chargers installed on the ground floor of the building available to residents, making Devron the first developer in the GTA to claim a spot on the Tesla map.



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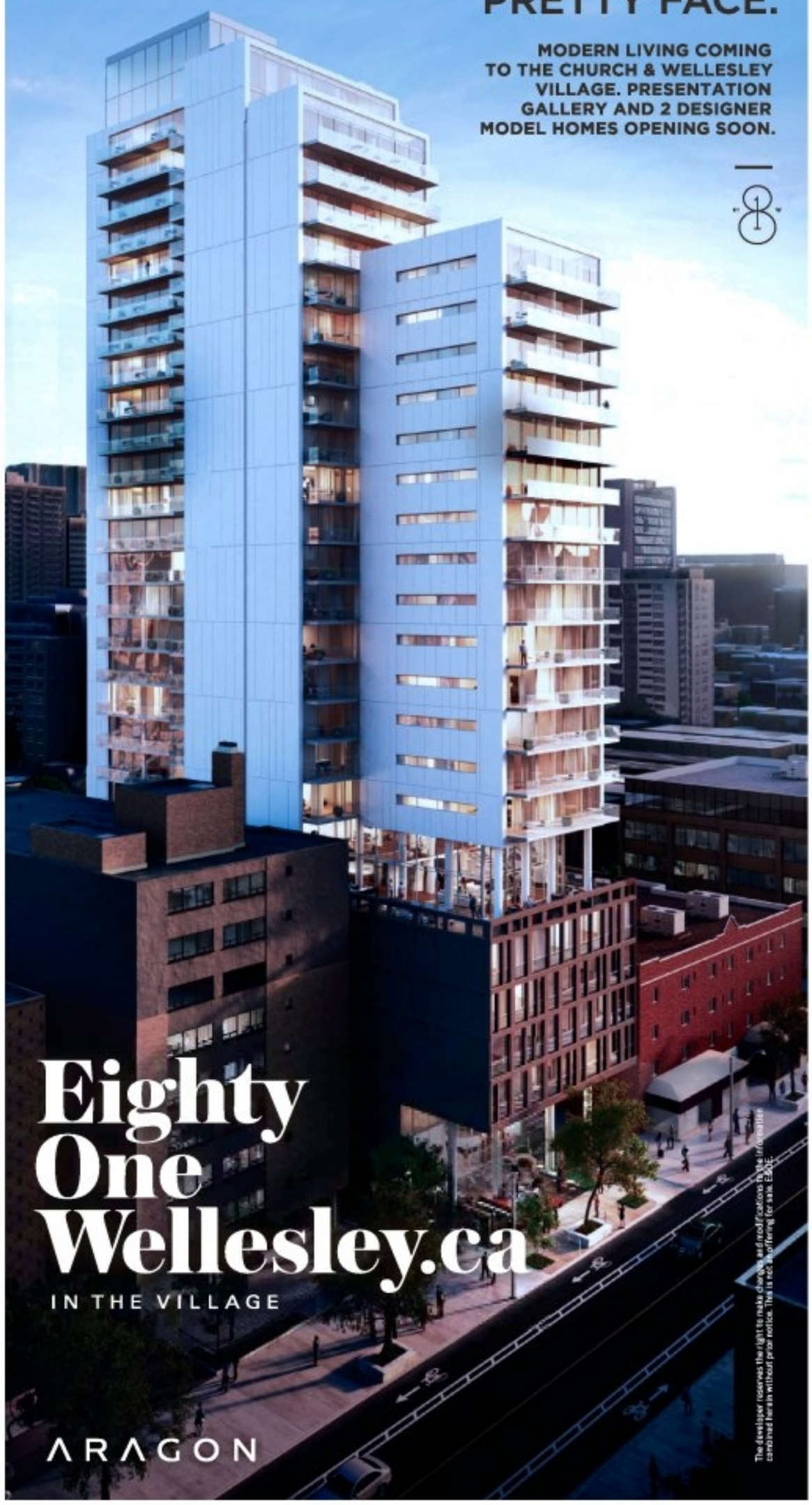

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IN THE VILLAGE

ARAGON

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REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 NEW RELEASE

Bayview Village: Tridel introduces the signature collection at SCALA condominiums located in the heart of Bayview Village. Check out the presentation centre at 4800 Dufferin St. CONTACT: 416-730-0300, TRIDEL.COM

2 OPEN HOUSE

Downtown: A luxury open-concept downtown studio condo will be shown this weekend. Check it out at 323 Richmond St. E., Apr. 30 and May 1 from 2 to 4 p.m. CONTACT: KURT DIENER, RE/MAX ULTIMATE REALTY INC., BROKERAGE. 416-656-3500

3 NEW RELEASE

Vaughan: The Met at Vaughan Metropolitan Centre has just released a collection of townhomes across from the new TTC subway station. Head over to the presentation centre at 7800 Jane St., Unit 14. CONTACT: 416-862-0888, PUREPLAZA.COM

The million-dollar problem

Bryan Tuckey
For Metro Canada

In the GTA, the average price of a new detached home now exceeds $1 million. This is a significant threshold that a lot of people won't be able to meet and it's largely happening because there aren't enough homes out there to satisfy demand.

We've all seen signs of demand outpacing supply; lineups in the winter to get into new homes sales centres, and bidding wars and bully offers on resale homes. These are symptoms of our housing supply problem. Supply is not able to keep pace with demand due to government intensification policies and a lack of serviced developable land.

The home building and land development industry is meeting the province's intensification requirements and is building more townhomes, high-rise condos and fewer detached homes. However, the demand for single family detached homes has not diminished. Record-low levels of new detached homes are available for sale, which is driving up prices and reducing housing choice for consumers.

"Recent reports out of the U.S. looked at why the biggest and richest cities are experiencing a housing affordability crisis.

There were 905 new detached homes sold in March, down nine per cent from March 2015 and three per cent below the 10-year average. As of March 31, across the entire GTA, there were only 1,634 new detached homes available for sale in remaining inventory.

Contrast that with 10 years ago in March 2006 when there were 11,149 detached homes in remaining inventory, according to new homes sales data provider Altus Data Solutions.

Our situation is not unique. South of the border there is a growing body of research and data showing a correlation between restrictive land-use policy and increasing home prices.

Two recent reports out of the U.S. looked at why the biggest and richest cities are experiencing a housing affordability crisis and both found that land-use regulations are affecting affordability in a variety of American cities.

In Canada, chief economist with Mortgage Professional Canada Will Dunning recently wrote that more low-rise homes are needed to meet the needs of the growing GTA and that in fact, we need at least 10,000 more annually.

If we want the GTA to continue to grow there needs to be a collaborative approach to tackle the issue of housing affordability.

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

MEET THE CONDO

Mixed-use in Yorkdale

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

A new phase of the Gramercy Park Condominiums development in the Yorkdale Community, Southside consists of two towers connected by a podium. The building is a mixed-use development and when complete, will have retail and services at street level.

In the neighbourhood

The condos are located in the Wilson Heights neighbourhood near the upscale Yorkdale Shopping Centre, with a Costco and Home Depot. Nearby Downsview Park has the Festival Terrace, a sports pavilion and National Squash Academy.

Housing amenities

Southside offers a modern lobby with concierge, a fitness centre and yoga studio, and an outdoor rooftop swimming pool. There's also a lounge area with party room, TV area, a bar and fireplace.

Location and transit

Plenty of transit options here, being close to the Yorkdale GO station, and it's a three-minute walk to the Wilson TTC subway station. Drivers will like the close proximity to Allen Road, and Highways 401, 400, 404 and 407.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER/FOR METRO

NEED TO KNOW

What: Southside at Gramercy Park
Builder: Malibu Investments Inc.
Location: Tippet Road and Wilson Avenue
Building: Two towers of 15 and 17 storeys with approximately 500 units
Sizes: 388 to 1,048 sq. ft.
Pricing: From $190,000
Suites: From studio up to three-bedroom units
Occupancy: Summer 2019
Sales Centre: 9 Tippett Rd.
Phone: 416-703-2202
Website: southsidecondos.ca

ADVICE

Let your realtor guide you to water

Jeffrey Cowan
For Metro Canada

Q: I am in the fortunate position that I am looking to purchase a cottage near a lake and I love the house itself with a sloping lawn down to a waterside road and a small strip of land between the road and the lake. I am concerned that because the road is public and the strip of land next to this is not public that I will be blocked from access to the lake. Who knows who owns the land? What do I need to do to ensure I can enjoy the waterfront?

A: Your dilemma is not all that uncommon in cottage settings that are in somewhat built-up areas.

Your realtor should be involved in this aspect of the transaction (even before the requisite title search your lawyer will do for you) and make the offer conditional on examination of the title to the specific strip of land that is causing you concern.

More than likely the access is there but it should be researched because a cottage without water access is like a ski chalet with no ski hills.

Doing your homework up front might cost a bit extra but it will avoid disappointment and an incomplete transaction in the purchase of your dream cottage.

Amelia McDonell-Parry is a New York-based editor and writer who fell in love with the weaving (above). McDonell-Parry says Instagram has been a boon for crafters like her. Right: Evan Gray Gregory designed her cat console when she moved into a small home. MAIN: AMELIA MCDONELL-PARRY

Turning crafting into a career

SKILLLS

Women at forefront of the maker movement

Women have always been an integral part of crafting culture, and now, with help from the Internet, they're taking it to the next level.

Hobbies can become thriving sidelines or full-time livelihoods. At Etsy.com, a major online crafts marketplace that launched in Brooklyn in 2005, most of the sellers are women, says Heather Jassy, a senior vice-president for the site. She says women make up 86 per cent of the site's sellers in America, 94 per cent in Australia and 91 per cent in Canada, for example.

"We hear from our sellers that they want to make a life, not just a living," she says. "Starting a creative business gives many women the opportunity not just to follow their passion, but to retain their autonomy, and build flexibility into their lives."

Greta de Parry of Chicago grew up on her dad's construction sites, poring over blueprints.

"I always knew I'd follow some kind of creative path," she says. "I just didn't know what."

In a first-year woodworking class at the Art Institute of Chicago, she fell in love with furniture making.

She started her own line of custom pieces in 2009, and in 2014 opened an Etsy shop.

Evan Gray Gregory of Seattle, turned her interest in woodworking into a business when she came up with a clever fix for a common problem. She'd gotten a new cat, and decided that a standard, pet-store litter box wasn't going to work.

"I couldn't find anything out there to blend with our collection of mid-century modern pieces," she said.

She designed and built a stylish litter box that drew raves from friends, and she opened Modernist Cat on Etsy in 2010. Amelia McDonell-Parry, Spin Media's editor-at-large and an amateur weaver, says Instagram has become a powerful player. "Over the last few years, a community of mostly female creators has exploded on the app, including both professional makers and on-the-side hobbyists," she says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MODERNIST CAT

Working antiques into your decor

MIX AND MATCH

Vintage pieces help to create unique look

The introduction of antiques into your home can provide a beautiful layer of design depth.

The trick is to select just a few pieces you love and work them into your decor. Loving antiques doesn't mean filling each room from top to bottom to create a reproduction of a historic home. Vintage pieces can easily complement contemporary furniture and be every bit as functional and, because most are one-of-a-kind, they help to create a look individual to you.

A few great ways to work these amazing pieces into your designs:

Vintage pieces can easily complement contemporary furniture, like this 18th century gold gilt French side chair. GLEN PELOSO/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Reworked antiques

The French 18th-century Bergère chair has been reproduced for literally hundreds of years and has inspired many other chairs like it.

The exposed wood is sometimes painted and sometimes stained. Nothing can beat the patina of an antique chair and, once the chair is recovered it becomes a brilliant combination of old and new.

Combined time periods

The dining table doesn't need to be the eight-piece set that you got at your local furniture store.

The combination of elements from various time periods allows you to create a truly unique look.

Also, the combination of wood colours provides an attractive texture and additional layer to the design of the room.

The key to success when combining is to stay within the same time period or go more than two time periods apart so the final "look" is clearly intentional.

Repurposed antiquity

The draper's table, repurposed as a credenza/desk, retains its rich, wooden beauty and spun details of the leg.

But it needed a new job title since it's no longer in use as an 18th-century work table in a draper's shop. Ideally, the antiques in your home should serve a purpose, allowing you to live in your home as opposed to just look at it.

Strength and balance

If you are working with strong architectural details like ornate coffers, dental details on the crown moulding, or extra tall and detailed doors, you need furniture and accessories to provide balance.

Conversely, if you are drawn to design elements that are commanding — such as wall treatments — the additional visual strength provided by antiques are a worthy match.

The esthetic impact of each element creates a visual balance.

GLEN PELOSO/
FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Glen Peloso is principal designer of Peloso Alexander Interiors, national design editor of Canadian Home Trends magazine and a design expert on the Marilyn Denis Show on CTV.

+ MID-CENTURY

One of the most popular antique selections currently is mid-century modern.

When creating a room that has the feel of mid-century modern, injecting a piece that is truly from that period can ground the look you are attempting to achieve.

The current reproductions of the time period are usually the most iconic elements from the era.

TIPS

Maximize outdoor space with colour, plants, lighting

Shelter magazines this time of year are fond of featuring expansive outdoor spaces with sprawling gardens and entertaining areas.

But for many people, especially city dwellers, the at-home al fresco area is more postage-stamp than palatial.

Not a problem, says Katy Kiick Condon, a senior editor at Better Homes & Gardens magazine. She advises using the same space-saving tricks outdoors that you do indoors.

Think of the terrace as an extension of the kitchen or living room. "Try using the same colour scheme and styles. The continuity will visually combine the spaces, and make your terrace feel larger," Condon says. "Outside, you can punch up the colours, and be a little more playful with art and decor."

New furniture designs for 2016 take into account the challenges of limited space, says Jackie Hirschhaut, executive director of the International Casual Furnishings Association's outdoor division.

"Manufacturers have created compact, functional furnishings that add style and comfort to even the most pint-size patios," she says.

Some manufacturers have started producing "balcony height" chairs and tables for the outdoor market; they're tall enough that you can see over the railing, but not so tall that you could fall over it.

If you're more into lounging than dining outdoors, forgo a table for one or two comfy chaises or chairs. Look for colourful, folding Adirondack chairs made of recycled, durable synthetic wood.

To add some interesting light sources, hang a pendant over a table or change existing sconces, advises Condon.

"With the improvements in solar- and battery-powered lights, there are tons of options that don't require hardwiring," she says.

Add some art to your "indoor-outdoor room": look for maps, photos or vintage ads that reference your home's location.

As for window treatments for terrace doors; outdoor fabrics have improved, feeling and looking more like interior textiles.

"Build up, not out," Condon says. Use vertical space by bringing in tall potted plants, hanging planters from the ceiling or creating a screen of planters. Look for colourful, pattern-rich umbrellas that tilt and shift.

But what if you've really got no room for any furnishings, and no view either?

"If the best part is just 10 square feet of fresh air, add a gorgeous runner and find some plants to breathe it in with you," Condon advises.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You can take more risks with brighter hues outdoors. GLOSTER

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The best of the 'starchitects'

Two chairs by Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola for Cassina. LUCA BRUNO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRENDS

Eastern, feminine inspiration at play

Big Italian furniture brands turned out collections at the 55th Milan Furniture Fair that included forgotten or neglected treasures from their archives, along with fresh innovations by the "starchitects" who have infused design with glamour.

A record 372,000 people attended the premier event for Italian design and furnishings this April. It featured more than 2,400 exhibitors at the Rho fairgrounds and spilled out into eight design districts in Milan's city centre. The annual gathering highlights the prowess of Italy's furniture manufacturing sector, which last year reported a 3 per cent increase of revenues to nearly 25 billion euros ($28 billion U.S.).

Some highlights:

Gender bending

Patricia Urquiola, who was named Cassina's new art director in September, is doing it all: launching her own designs while curating new works from colleagues, and updating the Italian brand's iconic pieces ahead of its 90th anniversary next year.

Urquiola said she has brought a more feminine influence to the Cassina DNA, which "has always been very masculine, very architectural."

She started with a new armchair called Gender, which she described as her "manifesto piece." It combines two elements: a ridged, high-back form that embraces the occupant with a more cartilaginous, adjustable headrest and a fitted cushioned "dress." The chair can be paired with an inverted U-shaped ottoman.

"I think it is time to stop the argument of gender. We need more blended gender," she said.

For her debut collection, Urquiola also revisited a steel-supported table designed by Carlo Scarpa in 1968, making it from anodized aluminum in strong shades including copper and matte red to lighten the impact. The table in the central Milan showroom featured a clear glass top, but it's also available in white or black marble.

"Now the table is much lighter," she said. "Evolution means to take care of things and make them new."

East meets west

Taiwan-based architect Shi-Chieh Lu adapted the traditional yoke-back Ming chair popular in China for Poltrona Frau, as the Italian brand infuses its collection.

While the Ming chair has traditionally been crafted from wood, the Ming's Heart design for Poltrona Frau takes its European cues from the leather styling. The distinctive geometric back and seat are suspended from the tubular frame, creating the sensation of a swing.

"It gives the idea of floating in the air," Shi-Chieh said.

The Ming chair is among a series of pieces commissioned by Asian designers this year that merge with Poltrona Frau's iconic pieces and contemporary design.

"I think that Frau is recognizable beyond the fact of whether a designer is from Taiwan or from Milan, because identity is something you create through the construction, the way of working the leather, and the stitching," said Marco Romanelli, who is in charge of reviving the brand's icons.

The essenital chair

Leave it to Knoll to provide the essential chair update.

The U.S. brand has made some of the world's most distinctive, enduring chair designs, including Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona chair. "The chair is an intricate question," allowed Benjamin Pardo, Knoll's design director, recalling the 70 series executive seating collection that marked the brand's entry into the European market in the mid-20th century.

Knoll's latest entry to the world of side dining seating, designed by Marc Krusin, arches comfortably around the occupant and features a functional horizontal aperture between the seat and the back that is both appealing to the eye and allows for easing lifting. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brazil Modern brings bygone era to life

NEW RELEASES

Book puts spotlight on design with rich influences

Brazil's modernist architecture may be better known, but the country's distinctive mid-century modern furniture is getting new international attention.

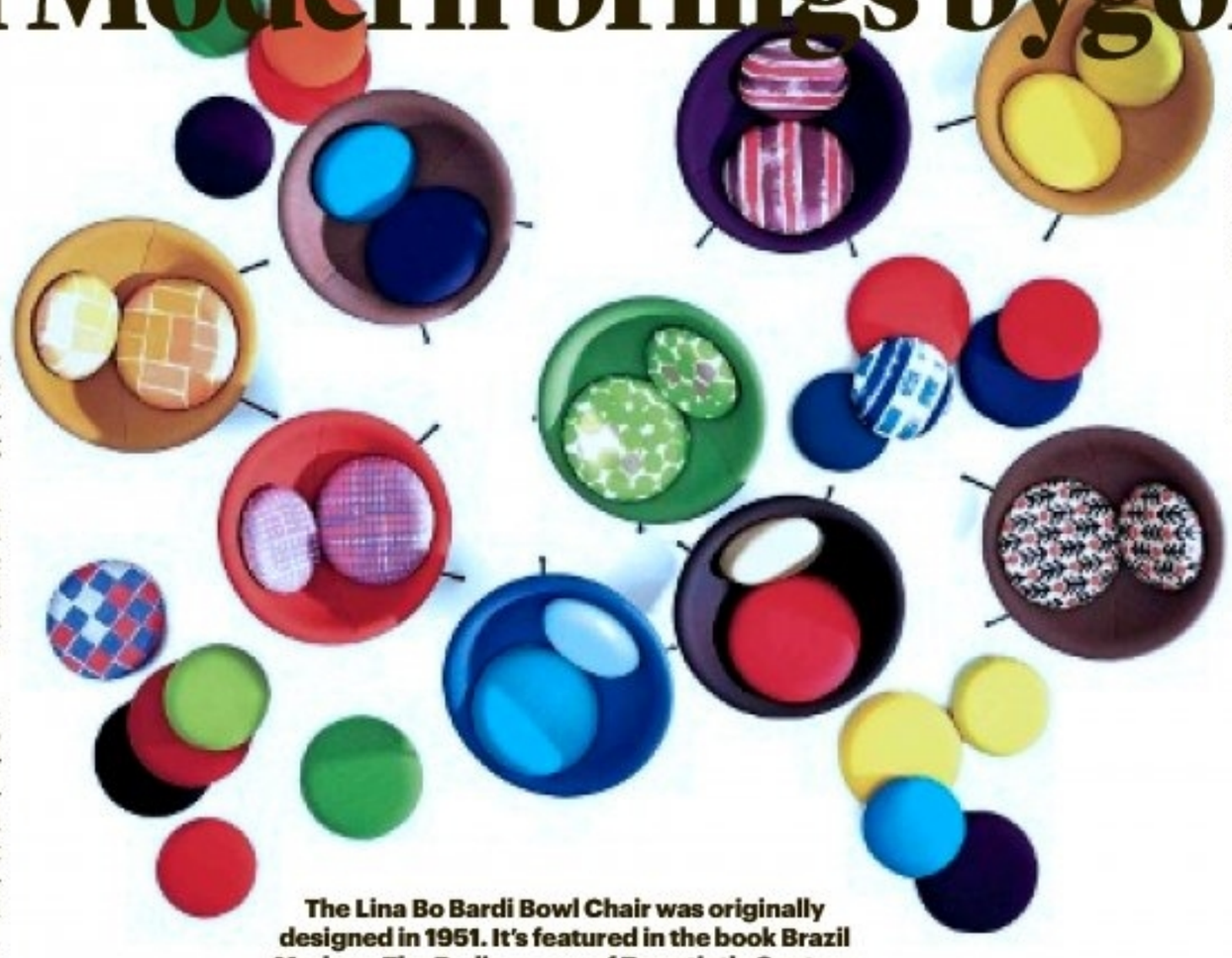
Sensuous curves, tropical woods, woven leathers, and traditional techniques like caning and netting were all part of a style that developed from the 1940s to the 1970s called Brazil Modern.

"When it all comes together, it's like the music of Gilberto Gil," said Juliet Kinchin, curator of modern design in the department of architecture and design at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, which recently acquired four chairs by Brazilian furniture designer Lina Bo Bardi.

Piece by piece, mid-century modern works from Latin America are gaining visibility in museums and galleries across the United States.

"Brazil is one of the last — if not the last — great discoveries of 20th century design," says collector Zesty Meyers, who wrote the introduction to Brazil Modern (Monacelli Press), a mammoth new survey by design curator and writer Aric Chen.

Brazilian author and design professor Maria Cecilia Loschiavo dos Santa interviewed many of the stars of Brazilian furniture design in person, wrote a book on furniture of the era, and co-curated Moderno: Design for Living in Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela, 1940-1978, an exhibit at the Americas Society in New York last year.



The Lina Bo Bardi Bowl Chair was originally designed in 1951. It's featured in the book Brazil Modern: The Rediscovery of Twentieth-Century Brazilian Furniture. MARCO COVI, ARPER/THE MONACELLI PRESS

"Interest (in the style) has been building for 10 years or so in the U.S., but now people are really talking about it," she said, interviewed by phone at her home in Brazil.

A recent turning point, she said, was the convergence of last year's "Moderno" show with an exhibit on Latin American urban design at the Museum of Modern Art.

Packed with over 400 photos and sketches, the book Brazil Modern brings the era to life with a detailed history of Brazil during the post-war decades of breakneck economic growth. It introduces titans of Brazilian design like Italian immigrant Bo Bardi (one of the few women designers of the era), Oscar Niemeyer, Joaquim Tenreiro and Sergio Rodriguez.

The same immigrant wave that brought post-Bauhaus designers and architects to the United States, ushering in elements like floor-to-ceiling windows, family rooms and open-flow houses, likewise brought post-Bauhaus architects and designers to Brazil.

"People think of Brazil as this faraway land," Meyers said. "But the waves of immigration were almost the same as the ones that came here."

In Brazil, this generation of designers became part of a national melting pot just as the country was emerging from colonialism and developing a national spirit known as "brasilidade," or Brazilianness, Meyers said.

The Brazilian design quest was for "authentic modernism," combining lustrous Indigenous materials and traditional local craftsmanship with European references and Bauhaus geometries to form an esthetic all its own. The idea got a boost from two early visits by the Swiss-French mid-century modern architect Le Corbusier. And a groundbreaking 1940 MoMA exhibit on Organic Design in Home Furnishings featured a Latin American section.

But because the pieces were not made in large numbers and were generally made to order for private homes, not corporate settings, they weren't readily available or visible outside Brazil. Today, they seem to have gained new relevance.

"One of the qualities of Brazilian design that really appeals to the contemporary audience is its embrace of the modern, while remaining deeply rooted in a profound relationship with natural landscapes, resources and the traditions of Brazil," Kinchin said.

An eye-popping 1947 chair by Joaquim Tenreiro is crafted from four very different types of Brazilian hardwood, and features a bonded laminated frame and three elegantly tapered wooden legs.

"Tenreiro's work has a real lightness and feel to it. The wood itself becomes part of the decoration of the furniture," said Sarah Coffin, curator and head of product design and decorative arts at the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three-legged chair by Joaquim Tenreiro. SHERRY GRIFFIN, R & COMPANY

> **People think of Brazil as this faraway land.... But the waves of immigration were almost the same as the ones that came here.**
> Zesty Meyers, collector

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7	2	3	8	4	9	1	5	6
6	5	4	2	7	1	9	8	3
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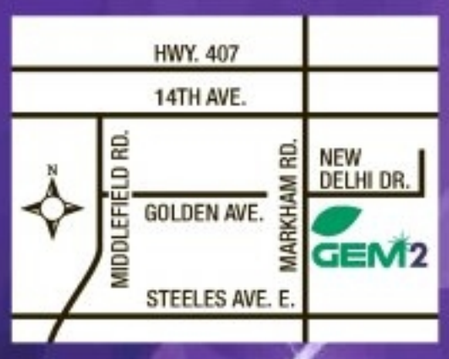

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"We're trying to do our part against climate change with whatever means possible, says Dave De Sylva. Trees are an ideal method of sequestering atmospheric carbon, and GreenLife Woods is another initiative that will be added to every new GreenLife community in the future."

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GreenLife Golden	Markham	14 cents/sq.ft.	June 2015 (operational for almost 1 yr)

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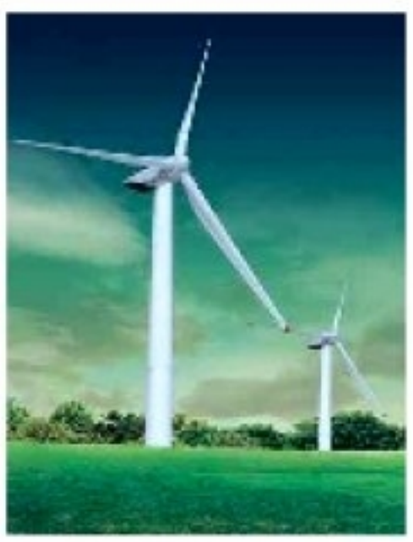

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MLB-worst Atlanta was mired in a 15-game home-run drought and had hit only three longballs before Freddie Freeman's Wednesday

MLB

Ks keep Jays in check

Former Jay Dioner Navarro hit a two-run triple in the seventh on Wednesday.
GETTY IMAGES

Dioner Navarro and Austin Jackson had back-to-back triples to lead the Chicago White Sox past the Toronto Blue Jays 4-0 on Wednesday night.

Jose Quintana (3-1) struck out 10 with four hits over six innings for the White Sox (16-6), who have won six straight. Relievers Zach Duke and Nate Jones each pitched an inning for Chicago before closer David Robertson came in for the ninth.

Reigning American League MVP Josh Donaldson led Toronto's (10-13) offence with two hits, including a double.

Marco Estrada (1-2) pitched 6-2/3 innings for the Jays, striking out five and giving up three runs on three hits. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Toronto's Wolfpack take lonely road in English rugby
Toronto's newest team is the Toronto Wolfpack, which plans to play in the third tier of English rugby league come 2017.

The Wolfpack will be based in England for the most part, playing home games in three-week chunks at Lamport Stadium in Liberty Village.

Rugby league is the sport's lesser-known 13-man code, as opposed to the 15-man rugby union version.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympic flame passed off to Rio Games organizers
The Olympic flame was handed to organizers of the Rio de Janeiro Games in Athens on Wednesday, 100 days before the opening ceremony.

Dressed as a high priestess, actress Katerina Lehou led the brief ceremony at the Panathenian Stadium where the first modern Olympics were held in 1896.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ray ready for a renaissance
It's been a very different off-season for Ricky Ray.

The Argos' quarterback said he's been throwing pain-free this off-season for the first time in two years. He had shoulder surgery following 2014 forcing him to miss Toronto's first 15 regular-season games last year.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVE SANDFORD/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

eNORMous contribution

RAPTORS
BACK TO INDIANAPOLIS

Game 5 spark plug displaying attributes of a clutch player

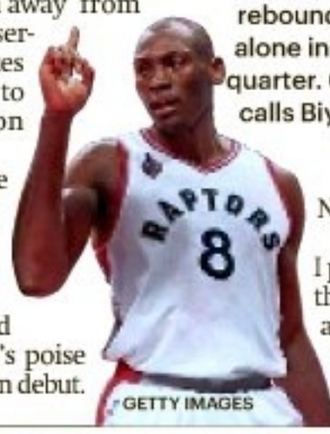
Norman Powell says he's been dreaming his entire life of playing in the spotlight on the NBA's biggest stage.

There was zero sign of stage fright Tuesday night, when the Raptors rookie swiped the ball off Pacers star Paul George, and took flight for a massive one-handed dunk. The huge play was a turning point in Toronto's Game 5 win over Indiana. And it came as no surprise to his teammates.

"When I first worked out with him in the gym, his mindset, his competitive nature, he didn't care who you were once you were on that court," DeMar DeRozan said of Powell. "He's had my respect since then."

The 22-year-old UCLA product was a big part of the Raptors' fourth-quarter comeback that has them a win away from clinching the series. Toronto takes a 3-2 series lead to Indianapolis on Friday.

Powell, whose dunk lit up Twitter — with the hashtag "WeTheNorm" — has played with a veteran's poise in his post-season debut.



GETTY IMAGES

"We're going to play that game as if it was Game 7 and that's just the mindset.
Bismack Biyombo who had 16 rebounds Tuesday — seven alone in that massive fourth quarter. Coach Dwane Casey calls Biyombo "the spirit of our team."

Nerves? There are none.

"No, I just told myself I put in the time, I put in the work, to go out there and play basketball," Powell said Wednesday. "It's a big stage that I've dreamed of being on my whole life, and to go out there and to prove to people that I belong on this stage, that I belong in the NBA — that's my whole mindset, (since) the day I was drafted."

Powell, who finished with 10 points, four rebounds and two steals, admitted he briefly considered what kind of dunk to do when he was barrelling toward the basket.

"There were so many different dunks I was thinking about doing," Powell said. "I kind of overthought it and the ball slipped out of my hand a little bit going up for the dunk."

DeRozan joked that Powell "was going to get cussed out if he missed.

"But he made it, he made it."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Atleti ends Bayern's streak

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

A draw next week will earn Spanish side spot in final

SEMIFINAL 1st leg

1 0

An early goal by youngster Saul Niguez gave Atletico Madrid a gritty 1-0 victory over Bayern Munich in the first leg of their Champions League semifinal on Wednesday.

The 21-year-old Niguez cleared three defenders before entering the area and hitting a low, well-placed shot into the far corner in the 11th minute.

Diego Simeone's tough defence then took over and Atletico held on for an important victory at the Vicente Calderon Stadium.

A draw next week in Germany will be enough for Simeone's side to reach the final for the second time in the last three seasons.

"It's still wide open," Simeone said. "The return game should be just as exciting for everyone watching it. It will be a difficult challenge against a very strong team."

Pep Guardiola's Bayern, trying to reach the final for the first time since winning the title in 2013, came close to equalizing with a long-range shot by David Alaba in the 54th, but the ball struck the crossbar with Atletico goalkeeper Jan Oblak already beaten.

Striker Fernando Torres could have increased Atletico's advantage in the 75th but he also struck the woodwork after a breakaway.

"It was a fantastic night and I'm happy for all Atletico supporters," Torres said. "We've got what we wanted, which was to get the scoreline in our favour ahead of the second leg."

Wednesday's draw ended Bayern's 11-game unbeaten streak, and kept the German side winless in its last eight knockout games away from home.

"We have to play at a different pace in the second leg" Guardiola said.

"If we let them run and win fouls, it will be hard. It's not a good result." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS ISLANDERS STRIKE DOWN LIGHTNING The Islanders' Casey Cizikas checks Valtteri Filppula of the Lightning during Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinal on Wednesday in Tampa, Fla. Shane Prince scored back-to-back first-period goals and the Islanders chased Tampa Bay goaltender Ben Bishop in a 5-3 victory. Game 2 will be played Saturday afternoon. CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Grilled Shrimp Guacamole Salad

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We think any recipe that has guacamole in the title rates high, but if it also features shrimp and comes together in a snap then we call that one a winner.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 200g raw shrimp
- Olive oil
- Salad leaves
- 1 avocado, diced
- Handful of cherry tomatoes, cut in half
- Cilantro, chopped to garnish

For the dressing:
- Juice of 1 lime
- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- ½ clove garlic, crushed
- 1 jalapeno pepper, diced (optional, if you like a bit of heat)
- Salt and pepper

Directions

1. Toss the shrimp in a little bit of olive oil and salt and pepper. Either put the shrimp on skewers and place on a hot barbecue grill, or put a cast iron griddle on the barbecue and cook the shrimp in the hot pan. For both methods, cook the shrimp for only a minute or so on each side – just until the shrimp is pink. Set aside while you make the salad.

2. Artfully arrange the salad leaves, avocado, and tomatoes on a plate, or chuck it all together in a bowl – it'll taste the same either way, really. Whisk the dressing ingredients together and season to taste. Drizzle dressing over salad and put shrimp on top. Garnish with the fresh coriander.

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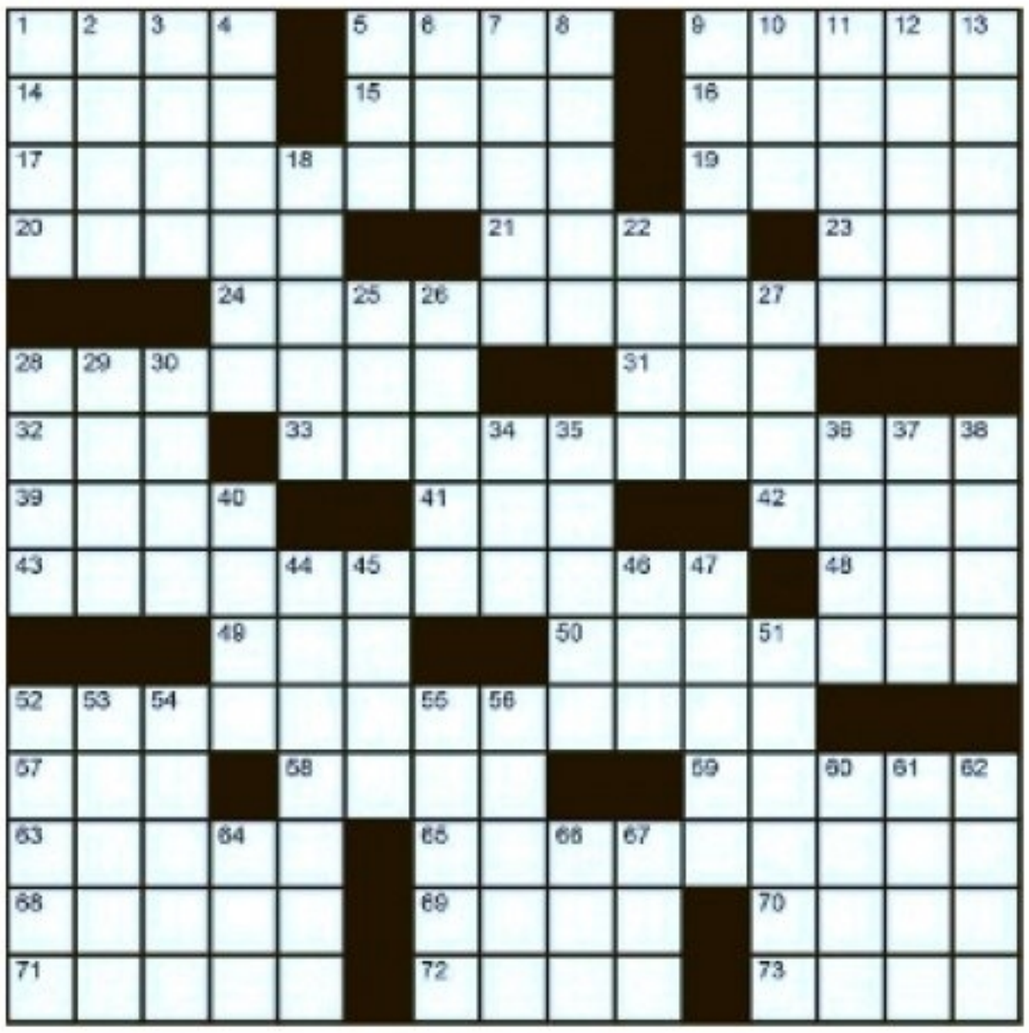
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Spouse
5. Show snippet
9. Mr. Potato Head stick-ons
14. Panache
15. Drove
16. Spiritless, to Shakespeare
17. The Guess Who's 'tart' tune: 2 wds.
19. Brian Bowman's job in Winnipeg
20. Bristly hairs
21. Jai __
23. Can. borderer
24. As per #33-Across... Composer of 1875 opera Carmen: 2 wds.
28. "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" star Alfonso
31. Sportily succeed
32. 'Meth' suffix
33. The Canadian Opera Company's production of Carmen is currently on stage at the __ Centre for the Performing Arts, in Toronto
39. Belonging to the Pittsburgh Steelers org.
41. -Fi's front
42. Me, she or him [abbr.]
43. Gleaming bird of prey: 2 wds.
48. Parisian summer
49. Prefix to 'culture' (Beekeeping)
50. As per #24-Across... French author of the novella Carmen on which the famous opera is based, Prosper __ (b.1803 - d.1870)
52. Backyard furniture pieces: 2 wds.
57. Ms. Ortiz
58. Part
59. Bay window
63. David's Goliath-slaying weapon
65. Siren sounder
68. Madonna's "Evita" (1996) role, Eva __
69. Fleck
70. Genuine
71. Retailer's establishment
72. Built-up talk
73. Thailand neighbour

DOWN
1. Clutter
2. __ vera
3. Pulled tightly
4. Anger
5. Grand __ (Wine classification)
6. Law, in Laval
7. Luggage's 'label': 2 wds.
8. 16th-century English dramatist George
9. Country in southwest Africa where Windhoek is the capital city
10. Granny: German
11. Russian spacecraft
12. Irregularly edged
13. Fender guitar, familiarly
18. "__ __ I care!" (Go ahead!)
22. "Even __ __ speak..."
25. Gold: Spanish
26. Awaken
27. Clouseau's li'l rank
28. Called
29. Data
30. Canadian telecom company
34. Elvis' label
35. 18th Greek letter
36. City near Provo, Utah
37. Memo
38. Snick-or-__
40. Mount Rushmore state, _ __.
44. Table centerpiece with tiered bowls
45. Robert De __
46. Floral necklace
47. Mr. Flynn
51. Canadian newspapers/TV magnate Mr. Asper (b.1932 - d.2003)
52. Bee-ish bugs
53. Cove
54. Setting in 'The Mummy' flicks
55. Wear florals with checks, perhaps
56. Like health store 'hearts'
60. Early person of Peru
61. Canyon lingerer
62. Permits
64. Hide __ hair
66. Jazz style
67. Sport-__ (All-purpose vehicle)

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Warning! Your relations with authority figures — bosses, VIPs, parents and teachers plus the police — will have some surprises and possible conflicts today. Tread carefully.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Travel plans will be cancelled, delayed or rescheduled today. Surprise news might affect you, especially regarding publishing, legal or medical matters. School plans might be rescheduled.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Make sure that you know what's happening with inheritances, insurance issues and anything regarding shared property, because something unexpected will impact these areas today.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Relations with partners and close friends are a bit dicey today. Someone might demand more freedom in the relationship. Or this person might surprise you in a different way. Be ready for something unexpected.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your work routine will be interrupted because of computer crashes, canceled meetings, staff shortages or broken equipment. Allow extra time for wiggle room to deal with this.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is an accident-prone day for your kids or children you work with; therefore be wise and be extra vigilant. Social occasions and sports are also subject to cancelations and accidents.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Small appliances might break down today or minor breakages at home could occur because something will interrupt your daily routine. Likewise be patient with sudden requests from family members.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is an accident-prone day for your sign, so pay attention to everything you say and do. Be alert. (The world needs more people who are alert.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You might find money today; you might lose money. Keep an eye on your possessions as well, because this is an unpredictable day.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It's a crapshoot today. The Moon is in your sign, dancing with wild, wacky Uranus. This might make you obsessed with something unusual. (Lighten up.)

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will feel restless today. Don't worry about this, because many people feel this way today. Fear not; this feeling is gone by tomorrow.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
A friend might say or do something that surprises you. Alternatively, you might meet someone who is a real character, because this is not a boring day.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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